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We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications: and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Roosevelt's succession of repeated interviews with foreign ambassadors during last week issued in an identical note, which was handed to the Russian and Japanese Governments on Thursday in last week. The preliminaries were well managed and the note is free of sanctimonious or persuasive superfluities. Mr. Roosevelt's only argument for peace was "the welfare of mankind", a generality to which one can hardly object, and his one suggestion is that the two nations should communicate directly without any intermediaries. Replies were received from Japan on Saturday and from Russia on Sunday. The only point in Mr. Roosevelt's intervention was to save either side from the prejudice to negotiations which might arise from making the first overture and it is to be hoped that paper critics will not irritate national susceptibilities by such suggestions as have already been made that it is the Russian duty to send plenipotentiaries to Japan, not to receive them nearer home.

If the quickness with which the place of meeting has been fixed may be taken as an omen, the peace conference should open unexpectedly soon. It was announced on Thursday, just a week after the proposal was delivered in Tokio and S. Petersburg, that Washington had been agreed upon for the meeting of the plenipotentiaries. The place appears to have been fixed as a compromise between the Japanese suggestion of Chifu, the Russian of Paris and President Roosevelt's of The Hague. The Japanese were quite wise to refuse any common ground where European intrigue would have had a chance of complicating the issue; and peace has perhaps a better chance of being arranged further from the scene of fighting than Chifu. The principal objection to Washington is that it is

empty and unbearable in the summer—did not someone call it a "Parliamentary cenotaph"?—and perhaps President Roosevelt would rather have avoided the continuance of his responsibility as peacemaker. One cannot be surprised that Japan refused an armistice.

The first rumour of peace produced a vigorous protest from General Linievitch to the Tsar. It is likely enough that General Linievitch is anxious to prove his capacity, but his picture of the efficiency of his army and his intention to assume the aggressive at once is perhaps too candid and ingenuous not to be also diplomatic. It was thought at the beginning of the week that the Japanese were advancing to a general attack, but no confirmation has been received of the great flanking movement which their occupation of Omoso seemed to imply, and the only authentic news is of another cavalry reconnaissance by General Mischenko. It is a curious and perhaps significant detail that Colonel Waters, who was on his way to take up again his duties as military attaché with the Russians, has returned to S. Petersburg after getting as far as Irkutsk on his way out.

The British reply to the Sultan's informal suggestion to the Powers of a conference on the situation in Morocco was delivered by Mr. Lowther on Thursday. He described the conference as undesirable from every point of view and the clause in the Anglo-French agreement concerning the mutual obligation to exert diplomatic influence made the gist of the answer a foregone conclusion. Two days later Count von Tattenbach handed in a formal acceptance of the invitation. Austria-Hungary and Italy are thought to be among the acceptances which may be accompanied with provisoes. But the conference is no more than a detail of a very complicated position. The French press is full of assertions of the supremacy of Count von Tattenbach's influence in Fez and announces concessions to Germany on the coast. The concessions are denied in Germany and no sufficient evidence is adduced; but the Sultan seems to have shown some irritation at the refusal of the Governor-General of Algeria to allow a supply of money and ammunition, designed for Ujda, to be transmitted across the frontier, and to have used even threatening language.

A letter from a correspondent in Fez makes us wonder whether, after all, Lord Lansdowne, in negotiating the Anglo-French Agreement, was not making a supreme Bismarckian stroke. For there appears to be no probability of France being able to make use of her chances in Morocco; and everything seems to remain there as before. So that we have got the pledges we wanted as to Egypt and Newfoundland, while France cannot blame us for her inability to reap the fruits of the deal in Morocco. And if France cannot carry out the part assigned to her, what must happen? There is no need to let in the rest of the world. We won't have any conference—certainly not.

It is an ironical illustration of the *vis improvisa leti* that M. Delyanni should be killed by an assassin in his eightieth year, when he seemed to have reached one of the few quiet periods of his life. The only motive for the brutal attack is said to have been a recent order of Parliament closing several gambling dens; and there is no question that the man who stabbed M. Delyanni was concerned with one of them. Whatever may be thought of M. Delyanni's natural chauvinism which led him perpetually into unworthy conspiracies and inflated policies, he had the vigour and something of the intellect of the classical Greeks, who were no better statesmen than he was. The war with Turkey, which was the issue of his army schemes, was as great a blunder as the Syracusan expedition and his country would have suffered from it as much but for the bolstering of the Western nations. But the mark of the man was his energy from the time that as a very young man he reached the position of under-secretary of state to the incapable Otho till his recent re-election as prime minister. He was always popular with the Greek people and the crime was certainly not political; but those who best know Greece will be disposed to think that it is a grievous sign of an unhealthy social condition.

King Oscar's letter to the Storthing was such a protest as he was perhaps bound to make: and it was received with proper respect. But it could not improve the situation; and argument on the illegality of a broken Union can only embitter feelings. Nevertheless the Swedish Government is in a predicament which, since nothing can revoke the separation, is chiefly a legal one, and the tendency at the moment is to leave to Norway the burden of establishing a new relation. The only definite step that has been taken, or will be taken till the Rikstag meets, is an order to the consuls to disregard the dissolution and to take no instructions "from the illegal Government in Norway". As coercion is out of the question, the Riksdag will be wise to consent to a separation which must any way exist; and the only difficulty is the natural, but it may be too persistent, bitterness of the King.

Two by-elections in Canada, one in London where Mr. Hyman, the new Minister of Public Works, was elected by a vastly increased majority, and one in North Oxford, have completely disproved the supposed extent of feeling against the Government's compromise on religious education in the schools. As firm believers in denominational teaching we must feel satisfaction that the policy of the Liberal Government towards the new provinces has been approved by Protestants as well as Roman Catholics. The Conservative opposition was in essence intolerant and, as expressed in the amendment to the new clauses, founded on a petty technical objection. It is entirely regrettable that the Conservatives, to whom one looks for the best expression of Canadian imperialism, should on this point take up an attitude not the less intrinsically unpatriotic because it was founded on a literal respect for the constitution.

New Zealand has anticipated the Australian Commonwealth by making her Agent-General in London a High Commissioner, and so placing him on a footing of equality with the Canadian representative. In Mr. Pember Reeves, who has looked after New Zealand's interests in England for the past eight years, the colony has an excellent first High Commissioner. It was indeed a little absurd that a man of Mr. Reeves' culture

and attainments should be called upon to play the part of a glorified commercial traveller. The status of Agent-General belonged to the period when the colonies were beginning to assume commercial importance. With the growth of the idea of closer bonds between Great Britain and the self-governing colonies the functions of the Agent-General have become more political, and New Zealand has recognised the changed conditions by adding to the dignity of her representative's office.

Mr. Deakin said what a good many Australians have been feeling for a long time when he started this week an alarmist cry for an Australian army and navy. Not long ago the Chinese were the only people of whom the Australians were afraid and they had begun to believe that exclusive legislation was a sufficient answer to that menace. But the war with its demonstration of Japanese naval force, and the growth of other navies, especially the American and German, has made the whole people appreciate the entire defencelessness of their present position. Perhaps the negotiations with Germany over trade in the Marshall Islands has principally induced the knowledge that the British fleet is their only line of defence; and to this how much is contributed by Australians? It would be well for other colonies to attend to Mr. Deakin's confession of weakness. Canada is more vulnerable, nearer to a powerful army and navy, and more likely to arouse animosity; and yet Sir Wilfrid Laurier maintains that expenditure on commercial railways is an adequate substitute for a contribution to the navy.

No one can have read the report of Sir William Butler's Committee without being first struck by the accumulated "sense of suspicion" induced by the inquiry, and perhaps even too effectively conveyed in the language of the report. The first hypothesis of carelessness or "culpable negligence" was abandoned, says the committee, before "the impression of cleverly arranged contrivance". Similarly the interrogation of witnesses, whose actions are described with unqualified frankness, chiefly impressed the Committee by its revelation of the region "where some deeper calculator has his abode". For this deeper investigation we must wait; and for the present the facts extricated by the inquiry are quite disturbing enough without any dramatic allusions to some Cave of Cacus to which they may point.

The Committee considers it established that several millions of money were lost to the nation owing to the way the stores were distributed after the war; and the general method of the transaction is fairly clear. In the first place stores which should have been countermanded continued to pour into Africa after peace was declared: the telegram which should have stopped them was not sent. But in any event a huge mass of food and fodder would have been left on hand, and Lord Kitchener estimated its value, if judiciously realised, at six or seven millions. With the distribution of this store the whole scandal is concerned. Almost immediately after Lord Kitchener's departure it was decided, in spite of the extreme value of food and fodder in a devastated country, to sell an enormous proportion of the stores to contractors at "absurdly low prices", a phrase which occurs several times; in some cases the sale did not bring in enough to cover the cost of carriage. There seems to be no doubt that great quantities of these stores so sold were presently bought back by the army at the usual high price prevailing in South Africa from the very people to whom they were sold. The principal contractor, for example, was buying oats from the Government at 11s. at the same time that he was selling oats to the Government at 17s. 11½d.

The folly, to use no other word, of so selling the stuff, at a time when the high price of everything was notorious, is inexplicable. How such a case, which is but one example of many, was made possible cannot well be explained apart from personal charges; the case of all officers concerned, as the Secretary of State for War expressly adds, is to be considered sub judice, and it is reasonable to give the benefit of explanations to civil contractors and financiers. But the form of



the folly is not in doubt. The Committee alludes to the extremely loose wording of contracts, the favour given to a small group of contractors, the payment of refunds "devoid of claim either in equity or reason", and the issuing of cheques—in one case for as much as £21,232—"without question asked or counter-signature required". The report is prefaced by a statement of the limitation put on the scope of the inquiry by the Army Council, and the further inquiry they demand is promised by the Secretary of State for War. The inquiry, of course, was not judicial, and strong desire is expressed that witnesses should be examined under oath.

Lord Roberts, acting presumably as the mouthpiece of others, has appealed to the nation to provide £100,000 for instituting rifle clubs throughout the country, and he maintains that it is only by such means that we can avoid conscription. The scheme has many difficulties. Perhaps its weakest point is the impossibility of providing sufficient ranges in this crowded country. This Lord Roberts admits; and proposes as a solution that miniature rifle ranges should be established instead. But these are of little practical good. Miniature rifle ranges do not teach men the effect of wind and the thousand and one other atmospheric conditions which have to be taken into account. Indeed generally speaking the circumstances are too unreal to be of much use. Moreover even if Lord Roberts' ideals were realised—which they never will be—and rifle shooting became a national pursuit, the inevitable outcome would be a false sense of security; and the fact would undoubtedly be seized upon by some ministers as affording grounds for "reduction", which with us is a perennial source of danger.

The principle on which Lord Roberts rests his appeal is still a moot question. We are in grave doubts as to whether he is correct in his assumption that the straight shooting of individuals is the first and principal qualification for soldiers. Victory lies with the side who are disciplined and trained to fighting tactics and who understand how to take advantage of grounds and who having done so can, as a mass, use their arms with good general effect. All the lessons of history prove that skill at rifle shooting even when added, as it was in many instances in the American Civil War, to "hunter's craft" is insufficient to produce an effective field army. We fear that once again the so-called lessons of South Africa have been permitted to obtrude themselves. Many competent officers declare that it was not our men's shooting that was bad, but their inability to come into action without exposing themselves, in other words they lacked a knowledge of fighting tactics.

It is not surprising to hear that Sir William Nicholson has resigned the governorship of Gibraltar, whither two members at any rate of the Army Council were most anxious to exile him; for his mere presence in the environs of Pall Mall causes qualms in certain quarters. It is little short of scandalous—considering the dearth of ability amongst our general officers—that, when we do fortunately happen to possess a man of brilliant parts, he should not be allowed to sit on the Army Council, simply because it is well known that he would not consent to become a passive instrument in the hands of a self-willed and impracticable War Secretary. The result is that while mountebanks masquerade in high places, really able and progressive men are excluded, and enervating uncertainty prevails.

But for Dr. Ray Lankester's confession in his Romanes lecture, one would not have associated his personality with a dreamer of beautiful dreams. He does not in every detail suggest the gentle grace of the dreamy poetic nature any more than he suggests its weakness. And yet he assures us that he lives in a dream which he does not expect to come true in his own time. This gives us hope of Dr. Lankester. No one can be quite a Philistine who makes for himself so unpractical a world. We have always thought the scientist might be a poet, if he only knew it, and we begin to think there must be something of the divine spark even in the soul of Dr. Ray Lankester. But he is doing his best to extinguish it, when he tries to oust

classical and historic culture from the education of youth. This is not a dream but a hideous nightmare. When Dr. Lankester wakes from it, he will be thankful for the futility of his painful efforts.

It is no doubt an admirable thing that some score of men of science should assemble every fifth year and talk about birds in a capital city. But a lover of birds who ventured to South Kensington Museum during this week might be excused for feeling the congress a little stuffy. The professors were very learned and a few of them very interesting. Dr. Bowdler Sharp's acquaintance with men and countries has been worth in sheer money perhaps £20,000 to the nation and a more breezy president could not be conceived. Dr. Otto Herman knows more about migration than any man living and many people are grateful to him and the Hungarian Government for the gift of his admirable work, the "*Recensio Critica Automatica*". M. Dubois, the French director-general of waters and forests, was another member of the congress whose natural history is above suspicion. But the congress is primarily a congress of collectors, with the master zeal for specimens, and we cannot but think it a pity that this side of natural history should dominate the subject. Observation of birds after all is an art as well as a science.

The decision lately taken at Hurlingham to have done with pigeon-shooting was not taken with the unanimous approval of the club and a protest against it was meditated. The intention will now not improbably be given up for several reasons; not the least cogent is the expressed desire of the Prince of Wales. He has himself never shot at a live pigeon from a trap, and he has authorised his equerry to write a letter to say that he thoroughly disapproves of the sport and greatly wishes that some substitute might be found. The letter was written in reference to some trials with a new apparatus for clay pigeons, which the Prince of Wales had witnessed. It was perhaps true that at first clay pigeon shooting gave small scope for "the conscious pride of art", which is what is wanted; but mechanical science grows and if the Prince of Wales finds the clay pigeon difficult enough, not half a dozen people in England will find it easy. As for artificiality the trap makes the difference, and except perhaps starling-shooting in public-house back yards, no sport would be less like the real thing than professional pigeon-shooting from the trap.

The Associated Booksellers of Great Britain and Ireland had a speech from Lord Rosebery in his best manner at their dinner in Edinburgh. It was itself a bit of literary criticism to tell his hosts that the toast of "Literature" was the most ridiculous and preposterous that can be submitted to mortal man; and they must also have thought it not altogether complimentary to themselves. There was just a soupçon of aristocratic hauteur about it. Lord Rosebery knows how difficult it is to say what literature is. His test is, does it survive to become something more than contemporary? Perhaps it is the most definite one, though as he pointed out there is a cocksure kind of critic whose great phrase is always "This is not literature". It is on a par with the criticism we often pass on a man we don't like; that he has no sense of humour. The dullest of us can easily say that about anybody; and nobody ever takes the least notice of it. Lord Rosebery was so disdainful of criticism in general that he must have been talking at the eminent critic present "who deals out criticism by the fathom". But most of us are in Lord Rosebery's case; we like or we do not like a book without having any very definite reason and sometimes without having any at all. The second-hand book is much the pleasanter because the question of merits has been settled by effluxion of time.

In one way Lord Rosebery's speech was disappointing. He talked of second-hand books and second-hand booksellers, but not in the sense understood by the real lovers of books, as were the old book-collectors and the old booksellers. That is a race gradually, but apparently very surely, dying out in this country. It is a lamentable sign of the times, for the care for old and rare books is a test of true culture which cannot fail. No uncultivated soul could take an interest in old

books, but he might in pictures and china. Their external attraction is greater. How many now amongst our greater nobles collect books? Yet it is precisely their fathers that built up the great libraries in the past. They made the libraries and their sons sell them. Ask Mr. Quaritch and Mr. Sotheran whence come the purchasers of rare books to-day? Not from this country. The American millionaire can put the British millionaire to the blush; he could, that is, if the British millionaire knew enough to understand what there was to blush about. Now Lord Rosebery is not a philistine: he has a regard for rare books. He was entitled to lecture his own country on their barbarism. And none could do it with more grace and a better chance of a hearing.

Afterwards when Lord Rosebery passed to Bathgate in Linlithgowshire to lay the memorial stone of a new church he must have felt as with books the comfort of being able to speak on the great dead who have passed beyond doubtful criticism—Dr. Chalmers and Cardinal Newman. Living ecclesiastical controversies in Scotland are just now a trifle too acute. Yet even Lord Rosebery, dexterous though he is, made a stumble. He referred to Dr. Chalmers as being in favour of Church establishments. That is true enough; and nobody would have denied it before recent events. But it is a rather inconvenient thing to mention and Lord Rosebery with his quick sense of what is pleasing to a popular audience quickly rectified his slip. His amended rendering—an amusing bit of intellectual summersaulting—was that at any rate Dr. Chalmers was a believer in an establishment as he conceived an establishment should be. That pleased everybody as it did not mean anything. The rest of the speech was uncharacteristic, equally when he was speaking of Dr. Chalmers as of Dr. Newman; but it was quite as correct as the earlier speech of the clever talker at the opening of a new reservoir, when he spoke of the value of pure water and the iniquity of river pollution.

The "Westminster jewels" were, so the local newspapers state, recovered at Cambridge on Wednesday: and we can all breathe freely again. True, a few benighted folk did not know the jewels had been lost, but millions of people did know; and at a modest computation thousands of these could think of little else, and no doubt could give a list of the missing articles, which included "twenty diamond brooches". Not all jewels; and no doubt the bulk of them are mere gewgaws bought for show and glitter. Some have a family history of real interest, and to others attach stories of pathos. Not all carnal things are carnal and no more. But what can the public know by rights of these stories, and therefore what earthly interest can they feel in the matter? The itch of curiosity about other people's private property and affairs is too prurient for words.

To batten on information about the diamonds or dressing-cases or hats and boots and beds of titled or untitled strangers—it is horrible. The savage who barter beads and wears rings through the nose is a better animal surely than the British jeweller of to-day. As to these constant "sensational" jewel robberies, is it necessary that full accounts should be spread abroad? We doubt whether the thief is often found through this kind of publicity. Indeed it may sometimes aid him to escape. We have heard a very strong authority on criminal investigation deny that such publicity pays Scotland Yard. And why do the authorities suffer the name of the inspector, who has the case in hand, to be so freely advertised?

We will not say there is poetic justice but there is very delightful irony in Canon Henson being accused of Romanising designs. Dr. Wickham Legg sees in Canon Henson's letter to the "Times" a dark conspiracy to equip S. Margaret's with facilities for "Benediction, Quarant' Ore, and other Roman functions unknown to the Church of England before or after the Reformation". Perhaps Canon Henson might discern a moral in Dr. Legg's willingness to find in his appeal a germ of Romanism. He will realise how exposed to attack is others' innocence as well as his own.

#### THE PROBLEM OF PEACE FOR RUSSIA.

VERY meet and right as is the enthusiasm at the possibility of the end of the war being in sight, the impression remains that the partisans of peace are unable to realise all the vital issues that are at stake on the part of Russia in the event of her surrender. With a perhaps excusable anxiety to promote the interest of their allies, Englishmen are universally inclined to take a somewhat ex-parte view of the present state of affairs. For the time being Japan has might, and to a great extent right on her side. For her to enter the arena of peace-making would be a comparatively easy task. She has in fact everything to gain and nothing to lose by so doing. She has no perplexing alternatives to face, and her Government is assured of popular support in whatever settlement it may elect to make. Russia's situation is entirely different, and in her negotiations with her victorious adversary she is hampered and obstructed by gigantic problems involving a labyrinth of far-reaching consequences. Impartial students of the political, economic and moral aspects of Russia's present dilemma must agree that no country ever hung in a more delicate balance of the scale between peace and war. For Russia the proposed discussion of terms for ending the war comes in reality at a singularly inopportune moment. The interests of the people are as much concerned as are those of the Government, and an immediate peace in the manner so glibly discussed amongst ourselves is by no means calculated to rescue the country from a plight worse perhaps than actual warfare. In the outcome of such a peace lie the germs of a greater humiliation than any as yet suffered by Russia at the hands of a victor. To terminate the struggle now would virtually mean the loss of her prestige in the East. What that prestige means in the future to an empire in evolution we need not stay to inquire. Peace at this moment would also for a long time to come check her indispensable and legitimate move towards the East, for the urgently needed expansion of her commerce and the development of her natural resources. It is true that she has again been balked in her traditional progress to the open sea-board; once more her approach to an Eastern Constantinople has been opposed by sword and bayonet. Yet however crippled she may be as a maritime Power, she is still intact and sound in a military sense, and is able to maintain her own on land. We altogether demur to the prevalent opinion so plausibly emphasised that Russia's present military position is so critical that she is brought to the pass of being compelled to sue for peace. Her own vast territory is as invulnerable now as ever it was before the war. The troops in Manchuria have been drawn, as we all know, for the most part from her Siberian contingent, with an excessive proportion of irregular cavalry unsuitable to the country. The bulk of her fighting material, two to three million strong, if need be, remains untouched. The disasters and defeats which she has encountered in what is after all a colonial war are not a criterion of her military capabilities as a defensive empire. With our own South African war experiences in our minds, we must admit that Russia has had to deal with a foe who has proved superior in warfare and equal in physical and intellectual equipment to any other nation in the world, a foe who is fighting practically at his own base and within easy reach of the entire resources of his country. Russia on the other hand has throughout kept up the combat with her left arm, so to say.

These military considerations are very pertinent to Russia's attitude to peace negotiations. The military position and the internal situation together will determine her course of action. Although M. Boulouguin is now said to be out of office, his scheme for the convocation of a representative assembly, summed up in a published volume of some 127 pages, has apparently been finally approved by the Imperial Council, and is at last on the eve of realisation. The immediate situation of Russia's internal affairs is obviously scarcely in a fit state to admit the consideration of such critical issues as would be involved in the acceptance of humiliating peace terms. The nation is at this



moment in a transitional stage of internal regeneration, and as such is unprepared to deal with so complex a problem as the sudden termination of a disastrous war. Viewed in the light of the contemplated enfranchisement of a large portion of the people, the present prerogatives of the Government may likewise be defined as in an ad interim state, and its final decision must therefore be fraught with exceptionally grave responsibilities to the nation. The policy of the Government is alone answerable for the outbreak of the war. Were its present representatives to decide upon bringing it to an untimely and ignominious termination, they would before long have to face a newly-formed legislature with a charter committing the nation to degradation and impotence. With such ominous forebodings hanging in the balance, Russia has but one suggested alternative. This is to decline all proposals of peace for the present, to withdraw from the seat of war into her own territory, whither Japan is not likely to follow her, and to employ the interval of enforced armistice by reorganising her army and replacing its old-fashioned methods by entirely modern conditions of warfare. M. Witte, who is no visionary, has, we are told, refused to take part in the present pacific pourparler. He declares that in spite of any passing superficial signs to the contrary the main current is not directed towards peace, and adds that Russia might if necessary prolong the war for another five years. These alternatives, it is further urged, would allow time for the maturing of the plan for the convocation of the people's representatives, with whom the Tsar would then have an opportunity of consulting as to the final conclusion of the war. Seeing that his Imperial Majesty and his counsellors are themselves in ignorance as to the true voice of the nation in the matter, it is futile for the foreign press to attempt to solve the problem by vague surmises and vapid assertions. But the financial problem, though one of the most difficult, is by no means unsurmountable. If foreign aid should really prove beyond reasonable attainment, which we doubt, internal loans might be resorted to and the resources of the Imperial domains drawn upon. Or, as a last resource, an appeal—and this is an expedient thoroughly in keeping with the mediæval and patriarchal genius of the Muscovite Tsardom—might be made by the newly convoked legislature to the churches to come forward with their immense wealth hoarded in the monasteries of the empire, as an emergency fund to meet a national calamity.

Reviewing the whole subject of the peace proposals, we cannot but regret the undue importance which has been attached to the correspondence between unnamed parties published in Vienna, alleging the appearance of a Russian Red-book, containing secret despatches relating to the negotiations which preceded the outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Japan. It is difficult to believe in the authenticity of such a publication containing the inmost secrets of the Emperor's Privy Council. Be this as it may, it is none the less disgraceful that a reputed respectable portion of the press of this country should promptly seize and utilise this document in order to rouse insinuations as to Russia's integrity and good faith. And this is done with the evident aim of inciting the Japanese to suspicion and doubt of their opponents' intentions in approaching the desired pourparler. It is, of course, always easy to blame the Tsar, who has been reproached for a wavering, hesitating attitude in his decisions in times of crisis. He has been taunted with not knowing his own mind, with being influenced alternately by two radically opposed parties in his entourage. Surely at a time of great national turmoil such as is taking place in Russia, it is not surprising that two opposing elements, a liberal and a conservative, or forward and reactionary party as they are termed, should struggle for pre-eminence in his councils. The perspective of recent events is still too near for us to distinguish between the relative merits of this multitude of counsellors. One thing however stands out clear. Nicholas II. has given ear to and sanctioned reforms which promise to be of a far more educative character to the people than any which prince or autocrat has ever yet attempted to introduce in the whole history of Russia. That he should now, in the vortex of con-

flicting advice, decline to precipitate matters which involve the destiny of his empire is evidence not of weakness, but of strength.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN STORES SCANDALS.

THE Report of the Committee presided over by Sir William Butler to inquire into the alleged scandals in South Africa is most unpleasant reading. It involves the most serious charges against a variety of people both military and civilian; on the one hand, it opens out visions of untold folly and inaptitude for business on the part of some officers of the Army Service Corps charged with both the disposal and provision of army stores, and on the other hand it suggests villainy on the side of the civilian contractors fairly eclipsing even their performances in other campaigns. The Secretary of State has inserted a preface in the Blue-book in which very properly he reminds all readers of the same that the matters dealt with are at present sub judice and that the opinions expressed by the Committee cannot be regarded as a judicial finding. He adds that, as is the case in all military courts of inquiry, the evidence is not given on oath, that it has not been subjected to legal review, that in many respects it is incomplete, and lastly that some of those whose conduct is called in question by it have not yet been heard in their defence.

Hence, it is perfectly obvious that it is most undesirable to give any opinion on the details of the case as at present made known. There are however certain broad features involved which are worth considering. That the officers of the Army Service Corps were called upon in South Africa to perform duties for which their previous training frequently rendered them totally unfit is known to all. It took a very short experience of war to demonstrate that Sir Redvers Buller's absurd scheme of making a commission in the A.S.C. qualify an officer for work as a D.A.Q.M.G. on the General Staff was a hollow pretence. It was under Lord Roberts that the methods of supply and transport in South Africa were reorganised and at any rate some of the officers whose conduct is now under investigation were serving under this scheme and were charged with the double duty of disposing of surplus stores and purchasing fresh amounts of the same article. The Committee state that they have come to the conclusion that what at first appeared to them as "continuous negligence" developed as they probed the matter further into "culpable negligence" and eventually rose to the dignity of "cleverly arranged contrivance". We refrain at present from giving any opinion as to the right description of such conduct. One thing however is certain. It cannot enhance one's estimate of the business capacity of the officers of the Army Service Corps to learn that at the time we were selling vast quantities of hay at 10s. per 100 lbs., we were purchasing the same article for 17s. 8½d. per 100 lbs. Small wonder that the individual engaged in these transactions is asserted by the Committee to have earned a precarious wage of over £2,000 sterling per diem.

The war we are told cost us some two hundred millions. It is only a marvel that it did not cost more if we paid a staff of officers to carry out arrangements of this kind. The civilian contractors who met with such liberal treatment at the hands of the military salesmen are described by the Committee in terms which forces one to the conclusion that in some cases at least the "companies" they represented were hurriedly called into existence merely for the purpose of securing the contracts. All this is very deplorable and the trouble is only commencing, for the most vigorous investigation must follow. Of course, there will be the usual alacrity on the part of irresponsible people to "hang somebody".

It seems that in June 1903 Lord Kitchener after protracted correspondence, prior to his departure from South Africa arranged for a special department called the "Sales Department" to be worked by the Director of Supplies. In doing so he mentioned that "the money involved will reach probably some six or seven millions". The period when the gravest of the

alleged irregularities occurred was during the six months immediately following upon Lord Kitchener's departure when his duties had been taken over by Sir Neville Lyttelton. But it is impossible to say at present whether any senior officer will be held personally responsible for this deplorable muddling of his subordinates, if indeed it be not worse. A general is necessarily very much in the hands of his staff with regard to contracts and supplies, especially when as in this instance a process of "swapping horses in mid-stream" has been adopted. Instances have not been unknown when secretaries of state rather than submit to public censure have sacrificed an officer who might conveniently be held responsible for some scandal, on technical grounds, simply to calm public opinion and gain a cheap reputation for draconic justice. The public will do well therefore to watch closely the means adopted by the authorities in dealing with this disgraceful business, for it is no secret that nothing would better suit certain members of the Army Council than a redistribution of their duties which would, in all probability, lead to their own personal advancement. We are in troubled waters, and it is as necessary in the public interest to watch the fishermen as the struggling fish.

#### "THE ROYAL SWEDE UNFORTUNATE."

PROFESSOR RAY LANKESTER at the Sheldonian on Wednesday declared in favour of the total abolition of the study of history as well as of Latin and Greek. After all what is history? According to the ripe wisdom of Professor Lankester it is merely "a story of the deeds of great men in the past"—the musty old past. The definition is not as new as it is brilliant? Well perhaps not. One does seem to recollect something of the sort in Carlyle or in Dickens' "History of England for the Young". But great minds—if we may rival the Romanes lecturer in originality—think alike: and in any case it was enough for the purposes of a Romanes Lecture. If however history is abandoned in our scheme of education, who will there be to write at a few hours' notice leading articles on such an event as the dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway? It is the way in England—not that this way is peculiar to England—to discuss with candour and assurance the momentous affairs of foreign countries. Burke declared that you cannot indict a nation. But our much-talkers and writers on foreign affairs are not to be cramped thus. They are quite ready always to indict a foreign country, or to endorse it. They are in a position to lay down the law to kings and governments, to give strong advice, to scold, to threaten, and to patronise. We suppose nobody would deny that to explain with authority the merits of the dispute between Sweden and Norway, which has at length ended in the separation of the two countries, an intimate study of Scandinavian history and life is absolutely essential. You cannot form an opinion of value, you may barely form a prejudice, on the strength of a column or two of dates and facts furnished for the occasion by special article writers, however clear and ably compressed these may be. Even the sources of information from which these capital special articles are derived, say Mr. Bain's "Political History of Denmark, Norway and Sweden" or Mr. Brækstad's translation into English of the Act of Union between Sweden and Norway and the constitution of the latter country, are not enough to go upon.

To judge by most English comment on the dissolution of the union between Sweden and Norway, it is as easy to apportion the blame as to predict what the inevitable result of the separation on the fortunes of Scandinavia must be. Roughly, the view of those who are strong Unionists on the Irish question is that the Storting and therefore Norway—for since Mr. Steen's day of power Norwegians, Conservative and Liberal, are practically at one in the matter—is wrong. Radical opinion in England, on the other hand, rather approves the act of Norway, chiefly we imagine because Sweden is aristocratic, whereas Norway is democratic. Besides, an English Radical on the whole favours disunion. In short the view of the party man here on the

dispute between Sweden and Norway and the dissolution of the Union depends on whether he is Unionist or Home Ruler. He has certain beloved formulæ or prejudices and applies these to the solution of the Swedish and Norwegian question. But besides party sentiment, and the vague, absurd belief that the case of Sweden and Norway somehow resembles that of England and Ireland, national self-interest comes in. There is the bogey of Russia if not of Germany. If Russia should secure Swedish or Norwegian ports, she will be a serious menace to ourselves. The dissolution of the Union weakens Scandinavia's defensive resources: hence Norway, by her action, is helping our enemy. This has been openly argued. It is conceivable that Russia, comfortably settled in Sweden and Norway, with a powerful fleet in the North Sea, might be distinctly distasteful to us and to one or two other countries. But this does not prove that Norway has acted wickedly in dissolving the Union of 1815, or that Sweden, to preserve the Union, ought to have yielded to Norway's demands. This kind of reasoning reminds one of the fervent declaration of faith in a London daily paper on the eve of one of the great battles in Manchuria—that our Japanese allies would not fail us at this critical moment of the world's history. Our friends the Norwegians appear to have failed us in that they have taken a step which may bring Russia to a place in which we are anxious never to see her!

The truth is that the rights and wrongs in the long dispute between Sweden and Norway over the Consular service, foreign policy, the flag and other matters, are only obvious when casually examined in the light of statements made by special correspondents and leader-writers holding a party brief. Glanced at thus, it seems clear, for instance, that King Oscar defied the Constitution by declining to sanction a measure passed by the Storting. But the King is prepared to show, with just as good faith as the Norwegians, the contrary, that he would have broken the terms of the Union in spirit if he had accepted the measure; and no doubt high constitutional authority can be enlisted on both sides. Once we detach ourselves from party feeling and formulæ about Unions, political liberty and the like and bring an open mind to the matter, we find how complex and highly debateable is the whole case. There are various facts since the dispute grew bitter—indeed long before the question of the Consular service arose—which seem to show that Sweden has never acted up to the spirit of the Union, has held the sister state subordinate. But on the other hand the attitude of King Oscar of Sweden is so dignified and reasonable, his protestations so obviously sincere, that the final act of the Storting appears to be one of violence, putting Norway in the wrong at the end if she were in the right during most of the struggle. The personal aspect of this event indeed attracts naturally enough more than its right share of attention. King Oscar's position really has a grand pathos. It can never be said of him as of the most famous of his predecessors, "Call not the Royal Swede unfortunate".

Historians will probably be divided in opinion as to the merits of the dispute, both sides having a strong case. Meantime it is not necessary for foreign prejudice—and ignorance—to avow itself on either side. The Union, conceived in a hurry, has never worked happily, and latterly, far from keeping Scandinavia secure, it has been a grave source of danger. If it is really true that Björnson and other Norwegians have coquetted with Russia in the past, it is highly unlikely that they will do so now that their grievance is removed. What as friends of both countries we should like to see would be an intimate and lasting alliance between the two countries, certainly defensive in case of war. Under the Union and the Constitution of Norway the military arrangements were half-hearted and unsatisfactory. The Union indeed was little more than union on paper. In spirit it had ceased to exist, and in case of war we believe it would have been useless. Very different is the case of Ireland and England. However bitter a Nationalist may be, he will scarcely deny, remembering how well his countrymen fought in South Africa, that Ireland has been uncommonly useful to us in time of war.



## THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

THERE is a Sunday question; we have no doubt on that point. It is true the rant of professional revivalists and the sensational rhetoric of popular preachers might easily put off the "sober and peaceable members of the Church of England" to whom the Prayer-book is addressed, and prevent them from taking seriously the present alarm as to the abuse of Sunday. But a thoughtful survey can leave no doubt in the minds of any who think that Sunday should not be levelled with the other six days of the week that a tendency in that direction is running somewhat strongly and rapidly. The movement of laymen to stem this tendency cannot be called premature, and we have no fear of its being too late. That it is a real and responsible effort is guaranteed by the names of the executive committee, which include Lord Hugh Cecil, Sir John Dorington, Sir John Kennaway, Mr. John Murray, and Mr. George W. E. Russell. From the beginning the number of its adherents has steadily grown. And since the upper class is at any rate given the credit of being the most serious offender against Sunday, it is not irrelevant to mention that the signatories include five dukes and lesser peers galore. As the promoters of the movement do not attempt to impose on the public any cast-iron rules for Sunday observance, but simply point to the spirit which they think should inform it, the spirit of worship and rest, we are able to give them unhesitating support. It is a real pleasure to find a Church movement which an examination of the names connects with no one Church party more than with another, and which is entirely sane and sensible.

The Sunday question would be easier to deal with if the zeal of the preacher, lay or cleric, did not so often outrun his knowledge, and, to be frank, his honesty. Illegitimate arguments are too often summoned in aid. How often is it said that a seventh day of rest is absolutely essential to a successful national career. Such a claim will not bear historic inquiry for a moment. The Romans had no equivalent to Sunday. That every nation is the better for one day's rest in seven may be perfectly true—we certainly do not wish to dispute it—but that does not justify the broad assertion that national success is impossible without a Sunday. And the appeal to Sinai is a very doubtful argumentative expedient. The Christian Sunday is not the Hebrew Sabbath; its sanction is not the thunder and lightning of the Pentateuch but the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Nor was observance of the Sabbath generally imposed on the Gentile Christians. To appeal to the Jewish institution as the authority for the Christian Sunday suggests a misconception of its place in the Christian system and a failure to appreciate Christ's own reading of the Sabbath ordinance.

And too often there is a covert pharisaism about Protestant championship of Sunday; half of it sounds like thankfulness that we are not as these poor Catholics, who go to Mass and then enjoy themselves the rest of the day. At any rate the "Catholics" may very well rejoin that if they differ from us in enjoying themselves on Sunday, they differ from us almost as sharply in going to church on that day. No doubt certain Protestant enthusiasm is ready with the amiable suggestion that "Catholics" go to Mass merely as a matter of form; that there is no religion in it. Of that God is a better judge than man, who, if he has any decent feeling in him at all, will leave such questions alone for ever. It is easy to blast good actions by assigning them to wrong motives; but it is not a pastime for a Christian to rejoice in. In any case the fact remains that amongst Protestants the proportion whose observance of Sunday contains no single religious element is infinitely larger than amongst Roman Catholics or "Orthodox" Christians. It is an obvious truth that the Protestant conception of Sunday has largely been perverted into merely doing nothing. The man who loafs his Sunday away in sheer idleness, never going near a church, thinks he is a superior Christian to the man who spends the forenoon in public worship and in the afternoon plays a game of football. The English Sunday can quite well justify itself; but its defenders should be a little careful of pointing to the awful

example of the Roman Catholic and other conceptions of Sunday. We can find plenty of warnings amongst ourselves without going abroad for them.

Preachers too should be on their guard against slipping into sensational clap-trap. A sermon on Sunday observance nearly always means a lurid picture of upper-class orgies. No doubt it is the same when middle-class people discuss these things over their tea-cups at home. But it is perhaps too much to expect people in private to forego the luxury of dilating on the enormities of their social superiors. Such conversation brings with it a fearful sensation of sweet familiarity with this wicked upper class (otherwise how could their private lives be known so intimately?) while it flatters with the assurance of the talkers' own higher morality. But a clergyman should be above that kind of thing. Does he suppose he is doing any good by describing picturesquely irregular scenes in great houses to congregations who will never have the chance to influence a single member of the upper class or to incur the risk of contamination by their ways? It is merely stimulating the common taste for scandal. No doubt it sends the congregation away happy and well pleased with itself, whereas an account of the shortcomings of those whom they can influence and who can influence them might make them uncomfortable, when they would object to the sermon instead of admiring it. And if clergymen must preach on the "smart set", let them at any rate take some trouble to test their facts. It is really not tolerable that a well-known London incumbent, in patronage probably the most influential in all London, should deliberately read to a congregation mainly of shop-girls and shop-men a description of a "smart" Sunday from the "Daily Telegraph". The "Telegraph" or the "Mail" was as accessible to his congregation as to him, and if the upper class was no more accessible to him than to his congregation, he had better have left it out of his sermon. Which does he think is likely to be the prevailing effect on these shop-girls of his recital from the "Daily Telegraph": disgust at what they heard of these smart people, or curiosity to know more of them? Nor is there any object in unduly blackening the picture. All England is not apostate. Cimmerian oratory makes the natural man sceptical, while it often plunges the spiritual into wretchedness of despair. Preachers should remember how the prophet of the Lord was rebuked for his pessimism. As then so now, there are at least seven thousand left who spend their Sunday in an English and Christian manner.

What is the real extent of the evil? The thing has two sides, one much more serious in our view than the other. There is the frankly pagan Sunday, and there is the decent but wholly secular Sunday. The number of houses where Sunday is not only like any other day but rather more rowdy, where even intentional violence is done to the public sense of respectability, is not really great. They may amount to a good many if counted up, but proportionately they are still few. They are mainly the houses of new rich people, who hope to get into society by their fastness. There should be no prejudice against a man because he is rich or because he is new, but in most countries it is a plain fact that new rich people are the most luxurious and the most rowdy. It is not unnatural: they are under no restraint of tradition, of status, of public responsibility, and not infrequently they have lacked the advantage of good education and bringing-up. They have given up working; they have means to obtain every pleasure; and if they are not intellectual, they do not know how to use their means except in enjoyments more or less crude. But if the upper class would make these people see that these Sunday performances were not to their taste, they would soon mend their ways. And this the best elements in the upper class ought to do. They owe it as a duty to common order and public feeling. Whether his free attitude to Sunday be the license of the libertine or the liberty of the spiritually enfranchised, no man, least of all a local magnate, has a right to use his liberty to offend the common sense of his neighbourhood. The lay movement we spoke of will be able to bring very useful influence to bear in this direction. On the whole we think this Sunday rowdiness will soon abate.

But the other side of the Sunday question is much more difficult to deal with. The numbers who ignore the religious aspect of Sunday certainly increase. They spend the day harmlessly and reasonably, religion apart—but it is merely a secular day off work. Especially church-going has fallen off amazingly: it has fallen off in all classes, but most of all in the upper class. Even amongst those who do not at all mean to ignore religion going to church is no longer a matter of course. That being so, it is not strange that the mere man and woman of the world should fail to recognise any obligation to attend public worship. This we regard as a serious and a sad tendency; and the Church should bend all its energies to check it. It is stultifying the increased energy of the clergy, and the renewed activity in every branch of religious work which the last half-century has shown. There is not space to go into the causes of this decay of church-going; but they do not lie on the surface. It is a matter of character. In religion, as in other things, every man has become a law to himself, and when a man becomes a law to himself he becomes an anarchist. At the same time progress, that is the pursuit of material things, care for the practical and contempt for the spiritual, absorption in the immediate present, disregard of anything that is not now and here—all this is carrying the country away from effective Christianity. The Sunday question is really a matter of belief. To suppose that Sunday will be observed as a Christian feast by those who have ceased to consider Christ is absurd. The Church must not think the Sunday question can be dealt with by itself. Religious people in England are too fond of trying to run secularism and Christianity abreast: it cannot be done. We are confronted with the old choice.

#### THE CITY.

IT is of course very proper of the Stock Exchange to anticipate as far as possible the march of events in regard to financial and political affairs, but the tension to which the nerves of the members have been subjected for so many months has not been without effect and the result has been to warp the judgment of a body which is usually accounted shrewd and far-seeing. The nervousness which has long characterised the tone of the markets accounts for the swing from pessimism to optimism and back again in the space of a few hours, a phase which has been particularly noticeable during the past week. Members left for the Whitsun holidays in an apprehensive frame of mind not altogether believing the various statements as to the progress of the initial steps towards peace. But during the recess the action of the President of the United States became known, whereupon on their return members had quite made up their mind that peace was only a matter of a few days. This unduly hopeful spirit prevailed merely for a few hours—one of the prominent jobbers in the Consol market shouted lustily as a buyer of Consols and was much disgusted to find that his wants were immediately supplied with evidently plenty more stock to come forward should he still have courage to bid. But this sort of thing soon gave way to a quite despondent tone, equally unwarranted probably. Germany would do this and that, France was selling as fast as she could, Russia was merely finessing—and much more in the same strain. The result was that the rise in prices caused by the short spurt was soon wiped off, and as a fact Consols close rather lower on balance for the week. Russian and Japanese stocks have however retained part of the improvement and in the latter stocks more especially, buying for investment purposes has been in evidence.

The House has certainly had plenty of leisure for reflection, as apart from the routine work associated with the close of the account and some investment orders there has been little to occupy the time. The American railroad market has been listless with a slight upward tendency, but the volume of business here and in New York has not been sufficient to infuse life into the market and we incline towards the opinion that lower prices will be seen before the upward movement again begins. Our view is that the present stagnation

is the outcome of a technical condition of the market in Wall Street, aided by the distrust arising from the disclosures in connexion with the affairs of the Equitable Life Assurance Company. The economic condition of the country however remains unchanged and the prosperity must tell in the long run.

Turning to our own special section for speculation—the South African mining market—there is unfortunately no improvement to chronicle. The latest returns published by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines show a total output of gold from the Transvaal of 416,395 ounces (fine) valued at £1,768,734. These figures establish a record, as the greatest value attained before the war was £1,720,907 only, whilst the progress since the resumption of active operations after the war has been on a steadily increasing scale. But the publication of the above figures, which are steadily creeping towards an output in round figures of the value of £2,000,000 a month, had absolutely no effect; the public stand aside and brokers become weary of attempting any explanation of the continued decline to clients who have patiently held shares for many years.

The Bill which has just been introduced to the Congress of the Argentine Republic is an interesting document, and the fact that the Republic is in a position to adopt a comprehensive scheme for the reduction of the annual charges on its foreign indebtedness is evidence of the material improvement in Argentine credit which has been steadily taking place during the past few years. The proposals do not go so far as anticipated inasmuch as a complete unification is not contemplated, but at present a partial conversion only is to be effected. The bonds of the Internal issue do not greatly concern investors in this country, but the External 6 per cent. funding bonds of 1891, 1892, and 1893, are to be changed into 4½ per cent. bonds, and the External 5 per cent. bonds are to be reduced to 4 per cents. The total amount of the new issues is not stated, but having regard to the improved credit of the Argentine and the storm aroused by the unification scheme of 1901, which whilst saving interest charges added to the principal of the debt, it is not likely that the present proposals will include any addition to the capital indebtedness.

The issues of high-grade investments which have been made during the past week have proved successful, more particularly the bonds of the Canada Atlantic Railway of which we were able to give particulars in our last issue before the public notification in the press; the issue was applied for several times over and those of our readers who accepted our view of the excellence of the investment and have received an allotment will not, we think, have any cause for complaint. The issue on behalf of the city of Quebec was a small affair of £78,000 3½ per cent. registered stock at the price of £93:10 per cent., the proceeds of which are to be applied in redemption of the balance of 6 per cent. debentures maturing on 1 July, 1905. The loan is therefore largely of a transfer nature only and as the security is undoubted any debenture holder would do well to accept the new issue—the lists will be kept open for this purpose until Saturday the 17th inst.

The prospectus of the Cataract Copper Company is of a different character from those of the above loans, but to investors who do not object to an element of speculation the shares which are now offered for sale may have an attraction. The capital of the company is largely held in the United States and 115,000 shares only will be on the London register, although these shares will carry the right of exchange to the American register for a period of two years. A covering letter from the general manager of the company accompanies the prospectus in which the statement is made that the mine is situated in the rich copper district of the state of Montana and in close proximity to the city of Butte. Development work has shown large bodies of ore to exist, and the proceeds of the present sale have been applied to provide for an extension of the company's operations and for enlargement of the plant.

The comparative ease of money has induced promoters to come forward with several schemes which have been lying in readiness for a favourable opportunity and among these propositions is one, we understand, which is likely to be presented to the public early



next week dealing with the manufacture of ice by means of a vacuum process. The manufacture of ice under existing conditions has obviously many objections chiefly on hygienic grounds but it is claimed that by the vacuum process all danger of germ infection is eliminated. The difficulties which have hitherto existed in the manufacture by this process have been surmounted and by the new method ice is to be made wholly pure and capable of being sold at a lower price than at present: there certainly would appear to be a great field for the enterprise if all the advantages claimed are borne out and the prospectus will be awaited with much interest.

## INSURANCE.

### THE ACTUARIES OF THE EQUITABLE.

LONG before the Institute of Actuaries was established William Morgan made the position of actuary of the Equitable Society of unique importance in the insurance world. The status he won for the position has never been wholly lost. Mediocrities preceded him and succeeded him but it has always been open to the actuary of the Equitable to make for himself a permanent position of greater dignity and prominence than is possible to the temporary president of either the Institute or the Faculty of Actuaries.

Mr. Manly, who was actuary to the society for some twelve years, has recently retired and the directors have fulfilled expectations by appointing the best possible man to succeed him. The new actuary is Mr. G. J. Lidstone, who has been actuary of the Alliance and who is one of the most brilliant of the younger generation of actuaries. The society, and indeed the whole insurance community, is to be congratulated upon the appointment. Even with the present multiplicity of actuaries, even with many societies greatly exceeding the Equitable in magnitude, the prestige which attaches to the position is existent, if latent, and Mr. Lidstone has the opportunity and the ability to make the actuaryship of the Equitable as pre-eminent as it once was.

It has often been said that the Equitable Society taught life assurance to the world. We have only to look at some of the addresses presented to the court of the Equitable by the actuary to come across the introduction as new features of practices which have become universal. It was in 1779 that William Morgan proposed the medical examination of lives before being accepted for insurance. It was many years after the formation of the society that it was referred to as "the only society which has been uniformly guided in its practice by calculation". It was the first Life office to make periodical valuations of its liabilities and to distribute surplus in the form of bonuses; while more than a century ago it was necessary to emphasise the fact that it could never "be safe to substitute conjecture for inquiry" in Life assurance affairs.

From the very outset it proposed to vary the rate of premium with the age at entry of the assured and one main ground upon which it was refused a charter was that "the success of this scheme must depend upon the truth of certain calculations taken upon tables of life and death, whereby the chance of mortality is attempted to be reduced to a certain standard; this is a mere speculation, never yet tried in practice, and consequently subject, like all other experiments, to various chances in the execution". It was further objected that a new society was unnecessary not only because the London Assurance and Royal Exchange were carrying on the business, but because Life policies "are duly underwritten by numbers of private men", and therefore a corporation for the purpose was undesirable.

Yet the early actuaries of the Equitable were but little fitted for the task of founding the science of Life assurance. Much work of a high order was done before the actual formation of the Society by James Dodson, a good mathematician, who died before the business commenced. The actuary appointed in 1762 was William Mosdell, whose salary as actuary was £100 a year, but whose abilities in this capacity seem to have been overrated at the price. James Dodson junior was appointed at the age of twenty-one in re-

cognition of his father's services: he had no mathematical ability and was subsequently succeeded by John Edwards and John Pocock, neither of whom was of any note. The position of actuary to the Equitable first assumed importance with the appointment of William Morgan in 1775. Morgan was a nephew of Dr. Price, the compiler of the Northampton table, to whom the Equitable Society was greatly indebted for actuarial guidance. Morgan remained with the society until his resignation in 1830 at the age of eighty. It was under his control that the foundations of Life assurance were laid, and during his tenure of office that the mortality experience of the Equitable Society was published, forming the first mortality table of insured lives. He was succeeded by his son, who continued in the position for forty years. His successor was J. W. Stephenson, who in about 1888 was succeeded by A. F. Burrbridge, who after about eight years went to the Equity and Law. At both offices Mr. Burrbridge won a high reputation and his recent death was greatly regretted. He was followed by Mr. Manly, to whose ability and popularity we recently referred.

The list contains great names and small, but a high prestige still attaches to the position and the opportunity of conferring further distinction upon the post of actuary to the Equitable Society is a great one. The new appointment renders it certain that the opportunity will not be lost.

## PETTY SELFISHNESS.

THERE is a defect in the English language which prevents us from speaking—at all events with any degree of euphony—of selfishnesses. And yet the want of such a plural is often enough felt in describing actions which we all permit ourselves at times without incurring a charge of more than ordinary selfishness. These actions are concerned with the smaller events of daily life; but they are none the less irritating to the victims of them. They may be compared in ordinary conduct with that class of offences in law which are known as summary, and fall under the jurisdiction of the police magistrate sitting in petty sessions, as they cannot be classified under the more serious category of crimes. They do not make the man or woman who is guilty of them unfit for social intercourse, but they mark him as more or less disagreeable. He encourages a desire in his neighbours to have as little to do with him as possible; and he is regarded as falling below the standard of companionableness. Good breeding to a considerable extent consists in the elimination, either through a happy natural disposition, or by training, of noticeable displays of petty selfishness. Where they are unchecked the cause is either in an unamiable temperament, or in thoughtlessness or ignorance which is often hard to distinguish from it.

It is a disputed point whether the tendency to insist on little matters to secure one's own comfort in total disregard of the comfort of others is more developed in the male or the female human animal. The controversy is one of those connected with the never-ceasing war between the sexes. It may be compared with the analogous one—which is the more essentially moral creature the man or the woman? On a general survey of all the greater qualities such as justice, honesty, moral courage, fidelity, courage and the rest of the superior virtues, men usually claim for themselves that women are on an inferior moral platform. With many protestations women are perhaps inclined to admit that some sort of plausible case can be made out for men. But on one thing women are unanimous as to them. They assert as a self-evident fact which cannot be contradicted that men are abominably selfish in little things; that on the contrary women are considerate, willing to give up their claims, self-effacing, taking more pleasure in seeing others enjoy the smaller gratifications of social intercourse which they have surrendered than they would obtain from claiming them for themselves. But this seems very disputable when we think for instance of the gross selfishness which women have displayed in the matter of the *matinée* hat. Women are notoriously the worst offenders against general

regulations which are made to secure order and comfort in all public assemblies. A crowd of women struggling for the best positions at a concert or theatre, on an omnibus or at a shop for any place where they particularly want to be, and where they have to compete with others of their sex, is well known to be one of the most pitiless collections of human beings. It is generally a woman who blocks up the entrance to a railway booking-office, making long, confused, unintelligent inquiries two or three minutes before your train is due to leave, though she might just as well wait until there would be no danger of her making you lose your train. She is perhaps making her arrangements a week or two in advance. We rather think, if the question were considered with a severely scientific analysis, that if there is any difference between men and women it would be found that they are equally selfish in little things though they are not selfish about the same things. If women were used to reading the newspapers with the same interest as men, and if we found them so regularly assembled in clubs, we do not doubt that many of the phenomena that have become associated with masculine selfishness would be found equally displayed amongst women. But what woman cares sufficiently for newspapers to gather together all the evening journals she can lay her hand on; to hold one in her hand reading; to lay one arm over another on her knee; to sit on a third; and all the time be glaring around suspiciously and determined to put off the scent any person who is in search of something to read? Neither will she do what some men do who affect one particular journal, who if they find it in use will sit down before the unfortunate reader of it and make him supremely uncomfortable by fixing him with hungry eyes, as a dog impatient for the expected morsel. Or like the Hindoo creditor who sits *dharma*, as it is called, before his debtor, who must pay or die of sheer starvation. There ought to be a severe rule in clubs against this particular exponent of trivial selfishness. He is laughed at as a sort of monomaniac, but he does not see his own absurdity, and so he escapes by virtue of his insensitive cuticle. We do not think we ever met in a railway carriage the woman who holds out an immense newspaper sheet which half envelops you, and in addition to the inconvenience which it thus causes, also shuts out your prospect from the window. Nor did we ever see between women that ever laughable dispute which often arises between male passengers as to whether a window shall be shut or open. We have no explanation of this, unless it be that women in their amazing indifference to everything hygienic do not notice whether they are being nauseated for want of air, or are being exposed to neuralgia or violent cold from an unregulated supply of it.

When we draw some of our illustrations from the manners and customs of those who journey by omnibus it may be said that the omnibus public cannot be expected to be fastidious. But the gentleman of the omnibus is often the gentleman who accompanies the lady with the *matinée* hat to the pit of the theatre. So that we extend our range beyond the mere omnibus. This gentleman then on the omnibus often is supremely careless as to what becomes of the smoke or the fiery ash of his pipe or cigar, which he persists in smoking though the wind is high and you may be blinded with his *exuviae*. We acquit women of this form of selfishness on the simple ground that as yet they have not taken to smoke on the omnibus. But it is almost invariably a woman who stands on the step and waves her adieux to friends on the pavement. With her arms held across the entrance she makes use of her advantage in the spirit of the dog in the manger. She keeps a long queue of people waiting and is wreathed in smiles apparently in proportion to the violence of the oburgations and imprecations which she must know she is exciting in the people behind her. She is also fond of posing on the step as the omnibus is approaching a stopping place. Not daring to take the leap to the ground before the vehicle is absolutely at rest, she holds a train of unwilling attendants awaiting her pleasure the while she smirks and is exceedingly well satisfied with herself. We admit that it is oftener he than she who suddenly stops and stoops in the

middle of the pavement to tie a shoe-lace. A merely feminine regard for appearances perhaps accounts for her apparent considerateness. Luckily there is this at least, as it is probable that no woman ever succeeded in tying a boot-lace so that it would stand the strain of a moderate walk. Where she need not put herself into the awkward position which stooping involves she will without hesitation disorganise the traffic of the pavement if it occurs to her suddenly to wheel round to inspect a shop-window or other sight.

In the domestic circle it may be that the tradition is correct as to the more exacting selfishness in small matters on the part of the husband towards the wife than of the wife towards the husband. But it is as often feminine as masculine want of consideration which bores outsiders with the affairs of the household and the family, especially of the nursery. Many women and many men are equally careless, if they are talking of what pleases themselves, and especially of themselves, whether they interest others or not; and if this is not a very exasperating form of petty selfishness, what is? But an even worse form of the selfishness centering in domestic life is shown in the keeping of animals which annoy neighbours—generally with harassing and wearying noises. We cannot be considered a civilised society until we have learned to protect ourselves against the people who keep dogs, fowls, pigeons and other animals who make sounds either piercingly shrill or maddeningly monotonous in town spaces that cannot properly hold them. A series of experiments made some time ago showed that in many respects women's nervous and sensory systems are less impressionable than men's. The indifference to the noise of their pets certainly seems to prove it. A man will lose patience with the howling or barking of a dog before a woman seems to become aware of it; just as the case is with the fracas of children who are setting the visitor's nerves on edge. And they are mostly women who are responsible for the non-restraint of nocturnal pests of this kind. They resent what they call interference with their pets; and it is particularly annoying to discover that while you are reproaching them with indifference to your comfort, they are regarding you as a curmudgeon whose one desire is to abridge the sum of human and animal happiness. One almost suspects this to be so when one learns from prolonged experience how almost impossible it is to create a healthy public opinion in a neighbourhood against the presence of unnecessary noises. Carlyle could never get a body of sympathisers in Chelsea. If the inhabitants did not absolutely enjoy the crowing of cocks at all hours of the day from early morning to the shades of night, they were profoundly unconscious of anything disagreeable in it; and he had to build a sound-proof chamber. Some would say he suffered an appropriate retribution for the misery he inflicted on others with his exhibitions of petty selfishness. But Mrs. Carlyle seems to have been an equal sinner; though so far as we know she remained perfectly calm under inflictions which drove her husband to distraction. She rather proves what we have suggested that women are in a favourable position for playing the game of petty selfishness successfully.

#### THE DANGER TO S. MARK'S.

IN December of last year Mr. Reginald Blomfield addressed a letter to the "Times", expressing some alarm on the subject of proposed restorations at S. Mark's, Venice. In March of this year a careful account, with illustrations, of the damage threatened to the church by subsidence and decay, and of the proposed remedies, was published in the "Architectural Review" by Mr. Horatio Brown, the well-known writer on Venetian history. Mr. Brown based his article on the report of Signor Manfredi, the architect appointed by the Italian Government to undertake necessary repairs, but overlooked, at some points, the dangerous nature of the scheme. Mr. Blomfield has recently returned to the subject, and in a letter to the "Times" of 30 May, gives his judgment on the proposals of Signor Manfredi's report, and while doing justice to what is sensible



and conservative in them, warns the lovers of S. Mark's that certain needless changes are also proposed, and begs the authorities to reconsider them. As Mr. Blomfield says, we English are not in a position to cast stones at others, but we can offer them the moral of our bitter experience. We have scraped or replaced most of our own stones, chipped many of our sculptures into nineteenth-century shop-form, filled our churches with abominable glass, furniture and tiles, and may at least, at the end of the story, exhibit ourselves as an awful example to another nation that is imitating us only too well. There is a mean between letting an old building fall down for want of props, and making a neat travesty of it, with all that remains of the original and what it has taken on of the charm of age wiped out. When our grandmothers become feeble, we prop them up as best we may; we don't throw them into the dustbin or scrape them and invite some professor of waxworks to restore them to what he supposes was their original design when they were new. That is what we have done with our churches, and what our belated wisdom should join in preventing for the incomparable age and beauty of S. Mark's. Crutches, if necessary, should be the watchword, but no waxworks over the wrinkles.

S. Mark's, of course, with its thousand years' history, needs careful doctoring and nursing. Every old building is in a constant state of disintegration, and S. Mark's has a peculiarly delicate constitution. The mortar in the brickwork seems to have been originally poor: the secret of Roman cement was lost at the time, or the expected end of the world affected workmanship. But the great danger to the fabric lies in the nature of the foundation: S. Mark's, like some of the modern skyscrapers, rests on an immense wooden raft, and that rests upon clay; subsidence of any part of this tends to crack the brick walls and vaults, and to tear away the veneer of marble and mosaic. The weight of ornament, moreover, added to the fabric, is another tax upon its resisting powers. It has been necessary, from time to time, to relieve some of the strains or patch the cracks, and the biggest of the operations was that carried out about 1850 by Meduna, who underpinned a great part of the foundations by driving piles and mortising in blocks of masonry at their outer limit.

Unfortunately this fortification did not extend to the north-west corner, the "Angle of Sant'Alipio". Everyone will remember how it leans out; it is badly constructed, and only held to the main fabric now by an iron tie. Mr. Blomfield resigns himself to the rebuilding of this part. I do not myself see why, in such a case, a crutch should not be employed, a "shore" of wood. These temporary expedients are usually much finer architecture than the buildings they support, and even S. Mark's would suffer little by the visible prop.

Other parts that it is proposed to overhaul are the two westernmost vaults (of the "Paradise" and "Apocalypse") and the great piers that support the dome at the crossing. There is a visible deflection of the vaults, but there is no sign that it is going further at present, and no complete reconstruction is proposed. But, as Mr. Blomfield says, the preparation of elaborate wood centering is a definite indeed a confessed threat of ultimate rebuilding, which might be avoided by other means; and apparently the west window, involved in the deflection, is marked out now for rebuilding. In the case of the piers he argues that since the mischief is underground it is useless to strip and tie them, as the architect proposes: what is wanted is underpinning. He suggests that the motive is to replace "shabby" mosaics with neat new versions.

Then there is talk of restoring the great old marble pulpit, the "Bigonzo". Surely a few more ties, in addition to those already binding the ancient blocks, is all that is wanted. Other "restorations" that do not justify themselves on the surface are those of the capitals in the western exterior gallery, and of the bronze doors.

But the most alarming immediate proposal is to take up, level and relay, partly with fresh marbles, the old flooring of the church. The danger of people slipping on the wavy surface and the desirability of preserving the design are put forward as reasons. This is really wanton. We have already, in the relaid part of the

floor, a too exact diagram of the design; a drawing would have served the purpose as well, and how dull this copy is compared with what remains on the other side, enriched by the curves and the polish of time and the sentiment of age. The design of S. Mark's is beautiful, and its materials precious, but the whole place has taken on in the ivory brown and tarnished gold of its marbles, the tone and fret of its mosaics, the crazed and battered lines of its structure, something of the waterworn look of a cave. No line is quite straight, or curve quite regular, and to patch into this the plumb-line and the spirit-level and the spick and span bit of copy would be to mar the whole effect of aged settling and use.

I have not the architect's full report before me, and therefore cannot measure exactly how much "restoration" is involved in some of his proposals. If in the case of the western vaults (of the "Paradise" and "Apocalypse") all he proposed were to relieve the weight on the vaults and strengthen the dome by invisible expedients, no one would object, even if this involved the temporary removal and replacing, as before, of parts of the vault-mosaic. For these mosaics were much of them poor sixteenth-century work originally and have to a large extent been already remade in recent times.\* The ancient mosaic of the dome ("Pentecost") is much more important. But restoration simply with a view to straightening and making neat the crazes of settlement, if safety does not require it, would be, in the present state of S. Mark's, quite foolish. Then, again, there is some confusion between the "tribunes" in the central piers and the piers themselves, and it is not clear whether the plan is to strip the piers throughout, or only at one or two points. Here again the more precious part of the decoration is the dome with its mosaic of the Ascension, and to safeguard that, some sacrifice might be made in other parts; but, by the architect's own admission, underpinning is the real remedy, not ties; if ties are used, they would be better applied frankly outside the mosaic, as Mr. Blomfield suggests.

I confess, in all this business, to a considerable misgiving as to what may be due to the appetite of the mosaic-workers. They are wonderfully ingenious and accomplished craftsmen, and have a complete confidence in their own powers of replacing old work by new that is just as good or better, and we cannot blame them if, with this belief, they are pleased to find opportunity of fresh employment. There has probably been more restoration of the S. Mark's mosaics than is generally known. A member of a firm employed showed me with pride the photograph of a mosaic in which three figures had been renewed. No one, he said, had been able to detect the difference between old and new. The difference was perceptible at a glance, and the anecdote may be useful as measuring the latitude with which "faithful restoration" is interpreted.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings has issued a friendly remonstrance against what is needless in the restoration proposed, and this document should command a weighty list of signatures. The urgent necessity is to arrest the relaying of the floor and to impress upon the authorities that the ideas of the modern mosaic-worker, which have wrought such irreparable damage at Ravenna, should be controlled in S. Mark's. Otherwise the Turkish matting and yellow wash at Santa Sophia will prove better preservers than the curators of the undesecrated church. On the disputable points of structural repair the Society might do well to send a competent engineer to check the Italian report by inspection. The probability is, that if the money were forthcoming, S. Mark's would be rebuilt. Only the strongest pressure of educated opinion, Italian and foreign, will prevent this, combined with a lack of funds.

D. S. MACCOLL.

\* There was a lawsuit over their workmanship, during which Titian, Tintoretto, and Paul Veronese were called as witnesses. A lawsuit of the same sort, curiously enough, arose over the nineteenth-century restoration. In each case the work was done over again at the expense of the artists.

## MUSIC IN SCOTLAND.

## II.—THE CONCERT TRADE.

THE concert trade flourishes in Scotland even as it does in England. At Aberdeen they dig up granite, at Dundee they make marmalade, at Glasgow they turn out Wee Kirk pastors; but amidst these manifold activities the busy concert-agent is ever at work. There is probably no artist who has made a hit in London without being immediately invited to the North, though London continues to show itself ungrateful by taking not the slightest notice of reputations won in the land o' th' mountain and the flood. Musical Scotland, in a word, is in the tender hands of the agent, and the agent's headquarters are necessarily at London. He keeps a keen eye on all new arrivals and the moment a man gets the slightest vogue he is snatched up and passed on to Glasgow and Edinburgh as the latest London success. It goes without saying that he must be a foreigner. The canny Scot is an astute chiel and you will never persuade him that it is possible for one speaking his own tongue, or even English, to be a musician of the first rank. So your long-haired violinist—after a London hit—plays out of tune and is rapturously greeted; the piano-pounder with an unpronounceable name stirs all hearts; the bleating Italian tenor and the croaking German tenor get any amount of applause and return to their native lands—via London—with their pockets full of bawbees and girdle-cake and haggises and kailyard and other Scottish coins.

It is somewhat curious that the Scot should be so sceptical as to the value of his own countryman. Dr. Johnson declared that the Scotch were in one vast conspiracy to overpraise their own heroes; but Dr. Johnson knew nothing about music. I should have expected to find Mackenzie, MacCunn, Drysdale and Stewart Macpherson installed as demigods in their native land; it would not have surprised me if some enthusiastic Scot, after a performance of some work of Mackenzie, had asked me "Where's Beethoven th'noo?" Nothing of the kind has ever happened to me. A Scot can assume an affection for pipes and he waxes enthusiastic over men who extort groans and shrieks from that hideous instrument, but he won't hear of a countryman touching any other instrument. He allows him to sing, it is true, but only on condition that he sticks to Scots melodies. He is pleased enough, I doubt not, when for instance a Lamond conquers Germany, Russia, England and America; but he has no burning desire to hear Lamond on his own native heath. He imitates England, but not the England of to-day: the England of twenty years ago. We have to some extent thrown off the foreign yoke; we have scornfully rejected Henschel and got Henry Wood; we listen with some patience to English pianists, fiddlers and singers; and it is not impossible that some day we shall be found listening to an English opera. It is difficult to believe that Scotland will do anything similar for very many years to come.

The result of the Scot's attitude to native musicians is simply that the concert-giving business has fallen into the hands of the agent, wholly and absolutely. The most astute agent finds the artist with the longest hair and the biggest London reputation; he advertises him enormously and gains his reward. I have been perusing the programmes of the bulk of the concerts given in Edinburgh during the last few years and it is obvious that Edinburgh has done nothing but plod painfully in London's footsteps, a very long way behind. Hardly anyone seems to have been heard who had not previously been heard in London, and no one has made a success who had not previously made a success in London. The independent fiery Scot is the most abjectly servile of creatures where music is concerned.

If Scottish interpretative artists have no very great chance in their own country, Scottish composers are still worse off. Scarcely a Scotch composer lives in Scotland. Mackenzie used to stay in Italy until he took refuge from storms and trials of the work-a-day world in the dull obscurity of the Royal Academy. MacCunn lives in London; so does Macpherson. They cannot get their music played in Scotland; and if it is

played it is not welcomed. Perhaps this is the reason why Mr. Cowen puts so little of it on the programmes of the Scottish orchestra. Mr. Cowen, however, defends himself against the charge brought against him on this score and sends me the following list of Scotch pieces played by him:—

Wallace . . . 1 work.	MacCunn . . . 2 works.
Drysdale . . . 1 "	Macpherson . . . 1 work.
Mackenzie . . . 5 works.	Stephen . . . 1 "

Well, eleven works does not constitute a very formidable list; yet, considering how coolly some of these things were received, one cannot blame Mr. Cowen for not being more enterprising. Another list furnished me by Mr. Cowen shows that the Scotch bias is anti-Scottish and not anti-British.

Sullivan . . . 5 works.	Davis . . . 1 work.
Stanford . . . 1 work.	Bennett . . . 2 works.
Elgar . . . 14 works.	Bantock . . . 1 work.
German . . . 5 "	Goring Thomas . . . 1 "
Hervey . . . 1 work.	Cox . . . 1 "
Bell . . . 1 "	Coleridge Taylor . . . 1 "
Reed . . . 1 "	

These are, I understand, all the British works played by Mr. Cowen during the period he has been conductor of the Scottish orchestra, with the exception of Mr. Cowen's own compositions; and it will be noticed that against eleven Scotch pieces there are thirty-five English. In fact wherever one turns one finds more and more evidence of the fact that the patriotic Scot will not carry his patriotism into music. Here, for example, is a fragment from a letter sent me by a Glasgow correspondent:—

"You have been, considering you reside in London, remarkably accurate in judging 'Scotch' taste and ideas in music, but, if you will permit me to say so, I do not think we are lovers or even admirers of our own composers. I can recollect numerous performances of overtures, symphonies &c. &c. by MacCunn, Sir A. Mackenzie and others received with almost painful silence, and I never recollect any compositions of these Scotchmen finding a place in the final plebiscite concerts."

There you have the whole ill, and goodness only knows what the cure will be. Where music is concerned Scots not only lack patriotism: they positively are anti-Scotch; they won't give a Scot a chance on his own native soil. They are first of all pro-foreign, then pro-English, then violently anti-Scotch. The result is that Scotch composers send their music to England to be played, and they themselves live in London when they can, that Scotch interpretative artists have to earn a livelihood abroad and that concert-giving in Scotland has become a barefaced trade. There is no pretence of art about it: simply the wily agent unloads London hits on a credulous Scotch public, and his financial success usually justifies him. Scotland hears a few fine artists but also a large percentage of humbugs.

A correspondent a couple of weeks ago called attention to the lack of a Scotch musical paper. May I ask what on earth would be the use of a musical paper when there is practically nothing musical to record or discuss? Years ago there was a very excellent little paper, "The Scottish Musical Monthly", which used to have articles by G. Bernard Shaw, Cuthbert Hadden, myself and other distinguished personages; but so slight was the interest taken in music that it died the death after a valiant struggle. I hardly believe a similar paper would have more luck to-day. Certainly a Scotch equivalent of the "Musical Times" is not wanted. It is dull and philistine and represents the worst features of English music. Perhaps when the next generation of Scotch musicians grow up they will be able to do something towards the creation of a national school of music, and then it will be time to talk of founding newspapers.

JOHN F. RUNCIMAN.



## AT THE S. JAMES' THEATRE.

I KNOW nothing of M. Emanuel Arène, the collaborator of M. Capus in "L'Adversaire". He may be as delightful an artist as M. Capus. The inferiority of "L'Adversaire" to M. Capus' usual work is no evidence against this possibility. Collaboration is an excellent thing in theory; but it nearly always fails in practice. One would suppose that the admirable qualities possessed both by A and by B would be all the more admirable in conjunction; and that A, strong at just those points where B is weak, would be of great assistance to B; and that B, conversely, would be a treasure for A. But the fact—the mysterious fact—is that the strong points common to both parties have a way of cancelling each other; also, that such weak points as may be in either obtund the strong points in the other. M. Capus has no weak points that would have prevented him from making, single-handed, a wholly delightful play on the theme chosen for "L'Adversaire". That "L'Adversaire" itself falls far short of his usual level is the fault of M. Arène, no doubt. But it is unfair to assume, as some of my colleagues have been assuming, that M. Arène is a duffer. His work may have been hurt as much by M. Capus, as M. Capus' by his. Indeed, the defects of "L'Adversaire" are in favour of this courteous idea. A clever artist may in collaboration so far over-ride a mere duffer as to produce a work almost on his own level. But parity tells the knell.

An ambitious woman, devoted to a brilliant but unambitious husband, and met and loved by a man both brilliant and ambitious, is a promising character for the observant dramatist. Much, I am sure, would have been made of her by M. Capus, had he worked alone. He would have shown to us wittily the gradual transference of her affection to the quarter where her ambition found its mate. When Langlade, the rising barrister, declares to Mme. Darlay that he has two passions—his passion for her and his passion for success—she, remembering her fond but retiring husband, answers bitterly that one heart cannot hold both love and ambition. There you scent an idea and a psychological situation. But nothing is made of either. When next we see Mme. Darlay, she is Langlade's clandestine mistress. Of her transition—the stage that is interesting here—we know nothing. Her transition has been skipped. The three principal characters stand to one another in the rusty relation of bookworm husband, ardent young gentleman, child-wife. Instead of pausing to vitalise them, the authors have hurried on to a conventional scene of the husband awakened, the husband cross-examining. This scene appears to impress the audience. But it is not good enough for me. I am all for cross-examination, if it be well done. I have spent in law-courts some of the most vivid hours of my life, listening to this or that master of the art. In the theatre, too, I have derived great pleasure from samples of cross-examination. That was a fine scene in "Mrs. Dane's Defence", for example, when the trained lawyer, little by little, exposed the well-laid imposture of the heroine. Two keen wits pitted against each other, on either side of a quite plausible case, till, at length, by some tiny flaw in the case, or by some tiny error in the conduct of it, the attack corners and destroys the defence—here is a process which (appealing, if you will, to an ignoble side of my nature) certainly does delight me. But a plausible case, with two dull wits pitted against each other across it, breaking down partly because one wit is more egregiously dull than the other, and partly for no reason at all except the dramatist's need, leaves the gladiator in me unsatisfied. And it is but such a process that is vouchsafed in "L'Adversaire" (hereinafter to be called "The Man of the Moment"). There is no evidence at all that Mme. Darlay is Langlade's mistress. Darlay does not suspect more than a flirtation. He begins to cross-examine merely that he may know how far the flirtation has gone. His wife is determined to deny even that she has flirted. But her denials are so clumsily expressed that Darlay soon begins to believe the worst. He takes a peremptory tone. She refuses to answer any more, complaining

that all along he has been trying to "entrap" her into "committing" herself. "Ah!" shouts Darlay, thoroughly convinced of her guilt by a phrase that is really quite compatible with innocence. Thoroughly convinced that he has by the irresistible force of his own intellect extorted the equivalent of a confession, he tells his wife that he is now going to confront the lover. Mme. Darlay, falling to her knees, implores him not to do that, and confesses her guilt. Had she the brain power of a rabbit, she would have known that the confronted lover would merely tell the husband not to be a fool, and that the husband would presently have to beg her pardon for having been such a fool as to condemn an innocent lady because of a phrase which, spoken in an excited moment, he, in an excited moment, had happened to misinterpret. The whole scene, in fact, is silly. It has a superficial appearance of strength and tensity. But it has no substance. The appearance appeared to impress the audience. Envious audience!

After the climax there is a marked improvement. An idea emerges, and has free scope in a scene that is natural, and also novel. Darlay is not an easy-going person, and he refuses to act as though he were. He is not violently angry with his wife, but he is shocked, repelled, and knows that he is likely to remain so. His wife implores him to forgive her aberration, and to live with her as before. But he points out to her that this would be uncomfortable for them both. He might forgive, but he could not possibly forget, and his inevitable memory would cast a constant shadow between them: they must see no more of each other. For his part, he may find happiness in his literary work. She, for her part, may find happiness in marrying her lover. He will not be so unkind as to divorce her: she shall divorce him. That favour he will grant her readily. But he utterly refuses that they should live together, for together they could not hope for more than a pretence of happiness. Now, all this is much better than the usual scene of violent reproaches melting into forgiveness—melting on to a clean slate. In real life, no doubt, the majority of men in Darlay's position would play the part familiarised to us by the stage-hero. But Darlay (we have been told, though we have had to take it on trust, in the first three acts) is a man of ideas, a philosophic man. And so it is natural that he should base his conduct on an idea. And so there is nothing to moderate our welcome of this idea, which (on the stage, at any rate) is a new one, and is certainly a good one—one which would in course of time force itself on the subconscious self of the average sentimentalist in Darlay's position, even though it were never intellectually realised. But not merely by reason of this idea, and of its naturalness in the circumstances, is the last act of this play memorable. It contains a very pretty trick of technique. In plays of this kind, the reconciliation is often brought about by some third party—some *raisonneur*. In "The Man of the Moment", surely enough, appears this *raisonneur*, but, all the while, unconsciously clinching the separation of husband and wife; and we have a scene not less comic than tragic in its irony. While Madame Darlay still pleads with her inflexible husband, her mother comes into the room, asks what is the matter, is horrified to hear that there is to be a separation. Darlay, of course, explains to her that the fault is his. She goes across to her daughter, and begs her not to take too harsh a view of things: it is in the nature of men to err; this man may have been unfaithful to her, but he loves her; let her go to him and forgive him. The daughter, looking very foolish, goes to him. The mother, looking (to us) very foolish, but feeling not at all so—feeling, on the contrary, very proud of her skill in preaching—proceeds to preach a little more. Of course, she says, if a wife deceives a husband, the whole case is altered: people sometimes complain that there is one law for men, another for women; but it is perfectly just that this should be so. Darlay echoes her sentiment. She retires, giving her blessing. . . . Really, this last act almost redeems the play. I am convinced that M. Capus conceived and wrote it without help from M. Arène. Or perhaps M. Arène conceived and wrote it without help from M. Capus? By the way, these gentlemen suffer not at all at the hands of Mr. Harry Melvill, their translator

The dialogue is natural and vocal English—rare quality in a translation.

The interpolation of Mme. Le Bargy in a British cast suggests to me many reflections, for which there is no space now. I will offer them next week.

MAX BEERBOHM.

### THE COUNTRY SIDE IN JUNE.

"A DRIPPING June puts all things in tune" is a proverb marking one of those essential differences between the point of view of the farmer and that of common human kind which assert themselves now and then. However in this particular case we take leave to doubt the wisdom of the proverb; at least it refers to a period before the calendar was reformed and should be dated back something like a fortnight. Indeed we are sometimes driven to conclude that the reform of the calendar was a mistake, somehow the eleven days that were omitted were those particular superlative days of May and June which the older writers describe though they are rarely realised now. Certainly the Whitsuntide traveller found his June all too dripping and even when his train ran into one of the patches of brilliant sunshine the country was not quite so happy and flourishing as it looked. Once outside there was that fatal chill in the air which all young creatures recognise and just draw themselves together to endure, refusing to push and expand in spite of the height of the sun or the date of the newspaper. The unkind feature of the season has been the persistence of arctic airs, anticyclonic draughts from the cold upper levels of the atmosphere, chilled too sometimes by passage from the northern snowfields. "Great expectations" might be the year's motto, for rarely has the outlook for the crops changed so miserably as it has done during the last two months. After a winter of superlative excellence in its dryness all promised well; the land was in beautiful order and most men got their spring corn sown under the best conditions in February. March was rainy but not unkind and the grass started away in a most encouraging fashion for the graziers. But with April things began to take a less favourable turn, for though the early part of the month was dry it was harsh and cold and the corn crops made little progress. On the heavier lands the surface of the soil, suddenly dried after the beating rains of March, acquired an awkward caked surface, through which the barley often failed to struggle, so that all spring corn shows a patchy and uneven plant. Towards the end of April came more rain, hindering the preparation of the land for roots. As for May, from the farmers' and gardeners' point of view it was a more detestable month than usual. Always a trying time and given to truculent intermixtures of hot suns, heavy rains and sharp frosts, this time it omitted the rain section entirely but tried all the unpleasant variations on sun, drought, and frost. So the fair promise of the earlier months has been gradually frittered away; hay-time is nearly here and yet the meadows, even the favoured stretches of grass by Thames side, though gay with buttercups and moon daisies, are barely knee-deep in thin grass. Fortunately nearly every field shows a great stack or two so that the countryside will still be full of hay. Already the machine is at work in the breadths of deep crimson trifolium and the softer pink sainfoin, a forage plant which deserves a wider employment, being still too much confined to one or two districts. As it is, one instinctively associates sainfoin with the soft undulations and the wide open fields of the southern chalk areas. The clover fields make a good show but are hardly ready to cut as yet. Of the cereals wheat continues to flourish. It developed a fine root system during the dry winter and though the dry May has checked the length of the straw a little the plant looks full and thrifty. It is just coming into ear which betokens a harvest at about the normal date, neither early nor late, and as far as we have seen the ears are well set with grain. Barley and oats are both patchy and uneven in the ground; early sowing, which is generally a main factor in obtaining a really high-class malting sample, has not succeeded this year. The sluggard who was too late for a February sowing

escaped the rough weather of March and has in consequence the finer plant and an enduring justification for future slackness. Beans are no longer the important feature they once were in the cropping of the farmer upon the heavy lands, but many a holiday-maker this Whitsuntide must have rejoiced that they have not entirely disappeared from our English fields. The bean-field's scent, the purring coo of the turtle-dove, the breaking voice of the cuckoo, are all bound up together and are charged with the very essence of June. After them comes another yearly linking of scent and sound, the odour, soft yet so penetrating that it seems to catch the breath sometimes, of the little white pinks along the paths in the kitchen-garden and the air tremulous with the cries of the lambs separated for their first shearing.

But near as we are to these midsummer poms, yet night-frosts are a still closer memory and day by day we are still tracing their results. The frosts of the last week of May were severe even for May but were fortunately more partial in their operation than usual. Many fruit-growers spoke at once of wholesale destruction, but wherever there was the least protection either by reason of the proximity of the sea or a sheltering belt of trees no great damage was done. Many of the early potato growers were hard hit, but the blackened haulm which followed the night of 22 May has already given place to a fresh and vigorous growth. The apple and strawberry blossoms were badly hurt in places but on the whole there is promise of a fair crop of both fruits. Pears and plums were mostly safe and look like a fair average crop, cherries will be rather scarcer than usual, gooseberries and currants abundant. Here and there indeed almost total loss has been experienced, the unfolding leaves fell off the walnut trees and the young growths of the horse-chestnut and the ash, both excellent indicators of the degree of cold which will injure the fruit, are scorched and blighted. One marked feature of the year in the orchards is the clean and vigorous growth; rarely have the leaves and young shoots shown such a bright appearance, uncurled by aphid and unbitten by caterpillar. Last year on the contrary the trees swarmed with vermin of all kinds, probably because the wood of 1903 had ripened badly and started still more weakly through the sodden state of the ground during the winter.

On the whole stock are looking better than crops, the grass grew early and though it became scanty during May the animals throve on it through the dry weather. Men who fat beasts out on the summer grazing are well satisfied with the progress that has been made and the rain has come in time for them. As to sheep the lambing season has been good, but what everyone is now anxiously watching is the state of the wool market. So far it has kept up almost beyond expectations; what will happen if peace is declared? On the strength indeed of the high price of wool store sheep were very dear to buy. Cart foals too have been scarce and difficult to find despite the threatened invasion of motor omnibuses and the consequent displacement of one class of work-horses.

Meantime we are in the thick of the show season and wherever farmers are now gathered together the prospects of the Royal Show and of the Society itself come up for discussion. So far the big shows have not been doing well, the Bath and West of England Society, which tried the experiment of going outside its old area to Nottingham, had a very poor attendance. Does this bode well or ill for the Royal? for everything has been staked on this third venture at Park Royal. The Society has put itself in the way of getting reformed and a new and popularly elected council is soon to take over the reins, but however strong it may be it will be put to it to carry such a deficit as is only too possible. In 1903 and 1904 the losses over the Park Royal Show approached £10,000 and the weather was brilliantly fine every day; what may happen in 1905 if we strike a week of wet or even doubtful weather? However everything has been done to maintain the show at its old level, even to increase the prize money; the believers in Park Royal have been greatly courageous and now that the Society is in a fair way to reform, it behoves everyone who has the slightest contact with or



interest in agriculture to exert himself this year to help the show. The Society has made mistakes, or rather it has gone to sleep and for lack of ideas not even made mistakes; but after all it is and must remain the only society capable of drawing together the whole varied body of English farmers.

### UNIVERSITY CRICKET.

THE 'Varsity match of 1905 promises to be one of more than usual interest. Although the two sides cannot be considered of much above average merit, they seem to be pretty evenly matched; and the bowling of both is on the whole better proportioned to the batting strength than has sometimes been the case of late years. It is rather early to say anything very definite as to the ultimate composition of the teams. Cambridge possesses six or seven men who are capable of getting runs; and of these Mann, Keigwin, Page, Young and Payne are all good batsmen, the last two perhaps being of a better class than the others. Colbeck too seems a useful player; and the fact that Macdonell goes in as low as eight is some testimony to the soundness of the side in the batting department. It cannot be said that any one man stands out as a player of absolutely first-class power; but on a good wicket Cambridge no doubt is capable of getting a good many runs. The batting of Oxford is hardly as sound as that of their opponents. Bruce, if he is able to play, is a fine young batsman, possessing what many run-getters do not, good off-strokes and determination to employ them; and Wright is also a dangerous man. Foster, possibly the best of the lot, is only just settling into form. All these, however, are Freshmen, and new to Lord's. Raphael and Evans must at present be considered the two best bats Oxford possesses; and on their performance a great deal will depend. Evans is of course by far the best cricketer in either eleven. Carlisle seems to be out of form; and Burn, Martin, and Udal, the bowlers, are not worth many runs. The remaining players are of quite a commonplace order; and the tendency to collapse, which has been noticeable through the season, suggests that if the first four or five men fail to come off Oxford will have little chance of recovery. In batting therefore Cambridge is more to be depended on, even if not more dangerous. In wicket-keeping Payne is unquestionably the better man; the fielding of both sides appears to leave a good deal to be desired.

In bowling the advantage seems to rest with Oxford. In Napier Cambridge no doubt possesses a good bowler; and May is a man who has enjoyed a considerable amount of success in first-class cricket, and seems thoroughly to have earned his place. But Mainprice is a rather uncertain quantity; and it is scarcely to be expected that Macdonell's slowness will have the same success as they did last year. He is a useful bowler, but he ought not to be able to get a side out. To oppose them Oxford has Burn, Udal, Martin and Evans. Burn, although he is not the man to go through an innings, can on his day bowl out the best batsman in the world, as Messrs. Fry and Armstrong can testify. Udal impressed the Australians very favourably. He is really fast, he generally keeps a good length, and he has an awkward way of going with his arm. Martin appears to be bowling well; and Evans, as we know, is capable of doing a big performance. He seems to a great extent to have recovered his 1903 form; and on a slow wicket he is probably by far the best bowler on either side. The general impression seems to be that the Oxford bowling is better than it has been for some years.

It is a somewhat dreary business analysing the merits and defects of two elevens, which are shortly to decide all doubts by actual conflict on the listed field. One has a feeling that all the balancing in the world is worth very little, is only one degree better than the rubbish written by professing authorities of the turf in the leaders of our sporting dailies. Still it is no worse, grammatically considered it is perhaps even better, than the morning effusions of heroes of the cricket world in the "Daily Mail"; a form of chronicle to which the captains of the 'Varsity elevens do not think it beneath

their dignity to contribute. With the literary aspirations of these great men, indeed, it would be vain to quarrel, even if it were worth while. But we would urge them to exercise their powerful influence in other and more important ways. We would ask them to remember that whatever may be said of county methods, 'Varsity cricket still has an ideal to maintain; that the miserable and deliberate sacrifice of a chance of winning to the average or aggregate of a single man, such as occurred last year, is an insult to the traditions of the University match, and a cause of real regret to all true lovers of the game. It is sometimes said that the popularity of cricket is already on the wane. The gates of our big grounds may seem to refute such a notion; but the fact remains that amongst those classes who best understand and most honour the game signs of disgust and satiety are not wanting. It may be long before those strata of the population who form the great majority of spectators are similarly infected; but whatever the ultimate fate of the game may be, the part that the 'Varsities, the repositories of keenness and sportsmanship, ought to play, is sufficiently obvious.

The action of the Cambridge captain in allowing one of his batsmen to break a record last year was the worst example of modern tendencies that the history of the match can show, and betrayed a spirit far more fatal to the true interests of the game than that which prompted the no-ball incidents of 1893 and 1896. Let us have no more departures from the high traditions of the 'Varsity match.

### MOTORING.

THE prospect of next year's legislation continues to be a subject of anxious consideration to all motorists. The vituperation of Mr. Cathcart Wason and one or two others who followed his lead in the recent debate in the House of Commons served a beneficial purpose in preparing the way for more moderate speakers. Mr. Arthur Stanley the chairman of the Automobile Club took advantage of the opportunity thus provided to speak at length on the subject. He claimed to represent the moderate and considerate section of motor-car drivers in the country. The last thing they wished to do was to burke discussion, but he could not help protesting against the exaggerated picture, drawn by one speaker, of children being kept indoors during a long summer day for fear of motor cars. With this protest we are quite in accord and from personal observation we are able to state that the majority of children are not kept indoors. As a matter of fact it is evident to all road users that even where fields and open spaces are available for the children, the high road is always selected as a playground. Mr. Stanley also referred to the enormous amount of exaggeration indulged in by the daily press when reporting alleged motor-car accidents. The other day there were two cases reported under the heading of "Perils of the Road: Callous Motorists", in which a description was given of a labourer being left insensible on the road while the motor car continued its journey. Investigation of the circumstances proved that there was absolutely no truth in the account. This fact was pointed out to the newspaper that reported the incident but no denial was published. Again, Lord Camperdown in the House of Lords gave an account of an accident that happened on the road whereby a lady was hurt and the motorist was blamed. Investigation again proved that the accident was due to a totally different cause, and that the motorist came on the scene after the accident happened, and placed his car at the disposal of the lady to take her to the hospital. Lord Camperdown contradicted the statement he originally made, but the denial made no difference to the state of public feeling, probably on the principle that if a lie were given a start of twenty-four hours it could never be overtaken. In the course of his speech Mr. Stanley remarked that the Automobile Club and the Motor Union were doing all they possibly could to assist in the reduction of the number of accidents caused by motor cars, and the punishment of those who caused them. This statement will be welcomed by all moderate motorists, more especially as the popular impression of

the Club's attitude for some time past has been of a somewhat different nature. Such a practice as "tuning up" racing cars on the highway has, it is alleged, been frequently "winked at" by the Club's officials. It is therefore extremely gratifying to learn from the chairman that a different régime is being instituted. We think, nevertheless, that the Club would be well advised to dissociate itself in future from such events as the Gordon-Bennett Cup race and to devote itself more fully to the discouragement of furious driving and other abuses of the pastime. It is only reasonable to suppose that racing cars built in England will at some time or other be run upon English roads either for the purpose of the inevitable "tuning up" or in order to reach the coast for shipment.

The Automobile Club by holding eliminating trials and making entries for foreign events will be regarded as tacitly upholding such practices. Mr. Stanley mentioned a special committee of the Automobile Club appointed to deal with the question of inconsiderate driving. This committee has, we believe, been in existence for a considerable time and it would be interesting to learn the exact scope of its work. Many cases of inconsiderate driving must have been brought to its notice, yet little or nothing has been heard about the punishment of the offenders. Two cases of furious driving on racing cars were recently tried before this committee. One driver was conveniently suspended until two days before the selection trials for the Gordon-Bennett race. This driver has succeeded in gaining a place in the English team for that contest. The popular impression now is that he was too good a man to lose. The other driver was suspended sine die. It is an unfortunate coincidence that the chance of his success in the above-mentioned trials was not considered to be good.

### BRIDGE.

#### THE ORIGINAL LEAD.

QUITE the most important point in the whole gamut of bridge, and at the same time one of the most difficult, is the original or blind lead before the dummy's hand is exposed on the table. So much frequently depends upon this opening lead, and the leader has so little to guide him. Like most other points of bridge, this question divides itself into two branches, the lead against a No Trump declaration, and the lead against a suit declaration. These two branches are quite distinct from one another, and the correct lead in either case is governed by entirely different principles. Let us first consider the lead against a No Trump call.

It is a hard and fast rule that, when No Trumps are declared, the leader must open his numerically strongest suit, and this is a rule from which there should be no departure, unless in very exceptional circumstances. There must now be no leading out a winning card to have a look round. Every possible card of entry is of such great value that it is a fatal mistake to sacrifice one for the sake of that "look round" which may or may not be of any use. When the dealer declares a genuine No Trump, the opponents are strictly on the defensive, and the best that they can hope for is to establish one long suit, and to win tricks with the small cards of that suit, by the aid of any other cards of re-entry which they may hold, and all their united energies should be devoted to this purpose. In no province of the game of bridge does the combination of the two defending hands come in so strongly as when playing against a No Trump declaration, therefore the leader ought to be careful to give his partner all the information that is possible by his first lead. Not only is it important that the original lead should always be from the leader's numerically strongest suit, but also it is very important that every player should thoroughly understand the accepted leads from the different combinations of cards. These leads are clearly defined, and there is remarkably little divergence in the tables quoted in the various textbooks by different authors.

The following will be found substantially correct.

Against a No Trump declaration, from a suit headed by—

Ace, king, queen .....	lead	On, followed by king
Ace, king, with five others .....	"	King
Ace, king, with less than five others ..	"	Fourth-best
Ace, king, knave, with a card of entry ..	"	King
Ace, kg, knave, without a card of entry ..	"	Fourth-best
Ace, queen, knave.....	"	Queen
Ace, queen.....	"	Fourth-best
Ace, knave, ten.....	"	Knave
Ace, and any other combination .....	"	Fourth-best
King, queen, knave, and one other ...	"	Kg, followed by queen
King, qn, knv, and two or more others ..	"	Knv, followed by queen
King, queen, ten .....	"	King
King, queen, with five others .....	"	King
King, queen, with less than five others ..	"	Fourth-best
King, knave, ten .....	"	Knave
Queen, knave, ten .....	"	Queen
Queen, knave .....	"	Fourth-best
Knave, ten, nine, or lower sequence ...	"	Highest of sequence
Any other combination.....	"	Fourth-best

These are the ordinary accepted leads of everyday bridge, and it behoves every would-be bridge-player to learn them thoroughly by heart, so that he will be in no doubt about the right card to lead when he is eldest hand, and also, conversely, so that he will be able to judge correctly, from the card led by his partner, what is the strength or weakness of his partner's hand. For instance, when a knave is led, the leader's partner should know that it is either from ace, knave, ten, or king, knave, ten, or from a sequence headed by the knave, and, in the majority of cases, an observation of his own and the dummy's cards will enable him accurately to place the missing cards. In the case of the lead from king, knave, ten, some players adopt the old whist lead of the ten instead of the knave, and it is probably the better lead, inasmuch as it distinguishes between ace, knave, ten, and king, knave, ten, but the knave is the generally accepted lead from either combination, so it is better to abide by it, but all the same a player should be prepared to read the lead of a ten as being probably from king, knave, ten, and others. A lead which is absolutely peculiar to bridge, and a very necessary one to understand, is from ace, queen, knave, and others, with no card of re-entry. The whist lead from this combination, and also the correct lead at bridge against a suit declaration, is the ace, followed by the queen, but in the No Trump game the queen is the correct and only lead. When the leader holds ace, queen, knave, and two or more others, it is highly improbable that his partner will have more than two of the suit, so that, if he leads out the ace and queen, the suit is established after the second round, but it is rendered absolutely useless by the fact that his partner cannot put him in again. The lead of the queen, on the other hand, offers great possibilities. If the dealer holds the king, he wins the first trick with it and the suit is cleared. If the king and two others are in dummy, he will allow the queen to win, and the knave is then led, putting the dealer badly on the horns of a dilemma. He is in great doubt whether to treat the lead as being from queen, knave, ten, in which case the ace in the third hand must block the suit, or whether to play the king second in hand on the chance of the lead being from ace, queen, knave, and he is very liable to read it wrong. If the third hand holds the king, singly guarded, he should always play it on the queen led, and, if it wins, return the suit at once. If he holds king and two others, he should pass the first trick and play his king on the second round, whatever card is led, so as to get out of his partner's way.

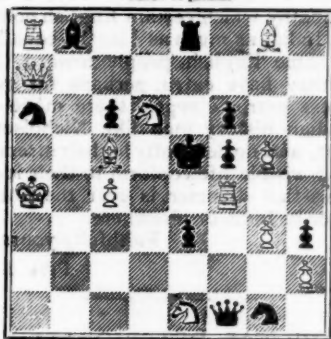
Whenever the leader has to lead a small card against a No Trump declaration, he should be particularly careful to lead his fourth-best. Never let him think that it does not matter which of his small cards he leads, when they are apparently equally valueless—it matters a great deal to an intelligent partner. The object of the fourth-best lead is to enable his partner to apply the Eleven Rule, which rule is of such supreme importance that a whole article shall be devoted to it in our next issue.



## CHESS.

PROBLEM 23. BY REV. J. JESPERSEN.

Black 11 pieces.



White 12 pieces.

White to mate in two moves.

Solutions to above will be duly acknowledged.

KEY TO PROBLEM 21: 1. Kt-K7.

KEY TO PROBLEM 22: 1. K-B2.

The following game was played at the Crystal Palace in the match between the Metropolitan Chess Club and Kent.

## SICILIAN DEFENCE.

White	Black	White	Black
F. C. Bundock	W. P. McBean	F. C. Bundock	W. P. McBean
1. P-K4	P-QB4	20. BxKt	QPxB
2. Kt-QB3	Kt-QB3	21. QR-KB1	Kt-Q3
3. P-KKt3	P-KKt3	22. Kt-Q1	P-Kt5
4. B-Kt2	B-Kt2	23. Kt-R4	PxP
5. Kt-B3	P-Q3	24. BxB	BxB
6. Castles	B-Q2	25. KxB	Q-Q2 ch
7. P-Q3	Kt-B3	26. Kt-B5	KtxKt
8. B-K3	Q-R4	27. RxKt	R-KB2
9. P-KK3	R-QB1	28. Kt-B3	R-KKt1
10. B-Q2	Q-Q1	29. Kt-Q5	B-B1
11. K-R2	Castles	30. K-Kt2	R(B2)-Kt2
12. Kt-Kt1	Kt-K1	31. Q-B2	RxP ch
13. R-Kt1	P-K4	32. QxR	RxQ ch
14. P-B4	PxP	33. KxR	Q-Kt2 ch
15. BxP	Kt-K4	34. K-B3	B-K2
16. Q-Q2	B-K3	35. K-K2	Q-Kt5 ch
17. P-R3	K-R1	36. K-Q2	Q-Kt7 ch
18. Kt-B3	P-B3	37. K-B1, and was now	
19. R-B2	P-KKt4	adjudicated a win for white	

This is a position where the two rooks in co-operation are much more valuable than the queen, and white wins easily after capturing black's pawn. The Sicilian, like other close defences, is very good if white will adopt rushing tactics. But when it is met with steady development the inherent weaknesses of the defence become more and more pronounced with the progress of the game. With the cramped position of black's pieces white may initiate any plan of attack without having to contend with aggressive resistance.

In this very game it is seen how helpless black really is to prevent white carrying out his ideas, and when ultimately white occupies the KB5 square, the game is as good as over. With 30. K-Kt2 white offers his queen for two rooks, showing great judgment and courage.

In view of the splendid newspaper reports of the International Chess Tournament at Ostend, it is very remarkable that such little notice should be taken of the tournament which has been going on at the Crystal Palace during the last week. Intrinsically, of course, the Ostend affair is much more important in that the players are selected from all parts of the world. But inasmuch as in the Crystal Palace Tournament there are several players of international repute it may be inferred that the quality of the play is sufficiently good to warrant the allotment of a little space to the doings of British chess players.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

## RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

12 Bryanston Mansions, York Street, W.  
5 June, 1905.

SIR,—The English pride themselves upon being a large-hearted magnanimous people, who would scorn to kick an enemy when he is down. Russia is not our enemy. Surely all those Britons who have visited Russia and can honestly say a word in favour of that country, her people or her literature could find no more fitting time than this for joining together and making an effort to counteract the painfully prevalent idea that Russia is a doomed land deserving of nothing but scorn and ridicule. A few men govern that vast empire, and a few more attempt to rid her of them by means of bombs; but what about the people—the nation at large—is there nothing there that calls for our study, or our sympathy? There is already in existence a private "Anglo-Russian Literary Society" but what we want is a public one, which can be joined and supported by all who wish to promote friendly relations between the people of Russia and the people of our Empire. We send no missionaries to Russia; we have no society to correspond with the "Goethe Society", or the "Japan Society"; in fact there is no connecting link between us.

Why should not a society be formed that could steer clear, as the Royal Geographical Society manages to do, of party politics, personal feeling and interference with other people's affairs, and keeps its one aim steadily in view?

I shall feel much obliged if you can find room in your columns for this letter. A nucleus is already forming towards the foundation of such a society as I have described, and everyone willing to help will be cordially welcomed. To quote a Chinese proverb, it is not the cry but the flight of the wild duck which causes the others to follow.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

ANNETTE M. B. MEAKIN.

## RELIGION IN FRANCE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

74 Grosvenor Road, Highbury, London, N.  
5 June, 1905.

SIR,—One point of interest emerges from the letters which have appeared, in your columns, on the most important legislative proposal now before the world—a proposal of which it may be said that the measure of its importance is the almost total neglect with which it is treated by the press of this country.

It is affirmed by Mr. Davey and by an authority which, even if not infallible, is never impugned, that the Separation Bill, if passed, will make the Pope more influential in French ecclesiastical affairs than he has been since the eighth century and the Church in France more powerful than ever, and will clear the way for complete Roman domination of the Gallican Church.

If then that is to be the effect of the separation of Church and State in France, what is the meaning of the violent and bitter opposition offered to the Bill by the Church party, and of the protests against separation made, as Mr. Davey tells us, by hundreds of thousands of (presumably religiously minded) persons throughout France? It is difficult to understand why a measure, for which it is claimed that it will strengthen the hold of the Church by increasing the power of the clergy and the papacy, should be opposed by those whose supposed interests it serves and whose aims it furthers, however unintentionally. It would rather seem that such a bill, conceived, as they declare, in an anti-religious spirit, but which they, at the same time, assert will defeat its own ends by producing results directly contrary to those intended by its authors, should meet with their enthusiastic approval and support.

The explanation of this antinomy would be much more enlightening and helpful to those who are anxious to know the truth about what is essential in the separation policy of the French Government than any amount of personal controversy on side-issues, which are of purely subsidiary interest, when they are of any interest at all.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
D. N. SAMSON.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

12 Buckingham Street,  
Embankment Gardens, W.C.

13 June, 1905.

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Robert Dell's last letter, all I need add to what I have already written, is that I think both your readers and yourself will agree that further correspondence on the subject of the Separation of the Churches from the State in France is useless with one who, having recently abandoned the Church of England, takes every possible opportunity of belittling the administration of the Church of Rome, and of ostentatiously placing his opinions on so grave a subject above those of the archbishops, bishops, and more prominent members of the community he has so lately joined. Mr. Dell has a perfect right to his opinions, and as such they are deserving of respect; what I deny is his right to accuse those who, like Lord Llandaff and myself, venture to differ from him of untruthfulness and of perverting facts from unworthy motives.

I remain, yours very truly,  
RICHARD DAVEY.

P.S.—Mr. Dell, with his usual courtesy, invites your readers to pay no attention whatever to what I said with regard to amendments 6 and 6 bis of Article Four. I repeat that what I said was absolutely correct, and in confirmation of this I send you two cuttings from prominent English journals, the one a Catholic, and the other a Protestant weekly. I could supply you with dozens of the English and French comments on the same subject written in exactly the same terms as my own.

[The cuttings from the "Sunday Times", 28 May, 1905, and "Catholic Times", 9 June, 1905, bear out our correspondent's contention. The correspondence between Mr. Davey and Mr. Dell must now be closed. It has ceased to be edifying. We agree with our correspondent, Mr. D. N. Samson, that argument is very much to be preferred to personal controversy on side-issues. But we are not much impressed by his "antinomy"; it seems that he has made a dilemma for his own diversion. It may well be that the French Separation Bill will increase the power of the Vatican over loyal members of the Church, though at the same time the separation of Church and State, on the lines of this Bill, would weaken the influence of the Church on the population at large.—Ed. S.R.]

BRIGADIER-GENERAL JOHN NICHOLSON.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

36 Lexham Gardens, South Kensington, W.

10 June, 1905.

SIR,—Your notice of to-day regarding John Nicholson is opportune, occurring as it does on the anniversary of the Maizar outrage, which set ablaze the whole north-west frontier of India in 1897. I cordially endorse every word of your appreciation of that man, built in every fibre of him on large lines and heroic proportions. In these days especially the life of a man like Nicholson is worth studying, if only to show that a fine combination of stern integrity, militant Christian conviction, and profound sympathy, is the best qualification in a ruler of India. When one reflects on the careers of men like

Nicholson, Herbert Edwardes, Henry Havelock, James Outram, Henry Lawrence, and a host of others I could name, one realises that the very best rulers England can give to India are men profoundly imbued with the mind and presence of Christ. Personally, I deplore the maudlin sympathy which certain English politicians display toward India, as much as I do the equally offensive attitude of some English people toward the country whose salt they have eaten, perhaps for generations. Between these extreme types, there move across the stage of Indian history men like Nicholson, lofty in their thought, and no less lofty in their strenuous efforts to make their visible life conform to their ideals. The effectual Christian dreamer is ever the finest ruler of men, whether in India or elsewhere.

Faithfully yours,  
PITT BONARJEE.

#### PHYSICAL DETERIORATION.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Huddersfield, 10 June, 1905.

SIR,—If the fact that nearly all infants are meant to live and not to die is one of the most striking theoretical pronouncements of the Physical Deterioration Committee, certainly one of the most practical recommendations of the report is the establishment of voluntary public health societies in every locality on the model of Manchester and Wakefield. The proposed foundation of a National Physical Education and Improvement League or National Public Health Union—the name may be left for future settlement so long as the thing signified is right—is to be welcomed not only as an indication that public opinion is, at least partly, awake to the importance of "doing something" but still more is this movement to be rejoiced in because it is a genuine effort to deal with the question in a practical way. Moreover this league or union may be a sign that it is beginning to dawn upon the minds of men that the question of physical development generally and especially of infants in their first year belongs to men and not to women only—to fathers in fact as well as to mothers. One gets out of patience with the constant nagging at the mothers who nearly always do their best under limitations imposed mainly by men. Men make the laws and form and express public opinion and it is for men to provide and maintain the home. It is no rash or unconsidered statement to say that where the father does his duty to the mother of his child, the mother will in turn do her duty to the child. Therefore by all means found the National league or union and let the men take their share of responsibility. But do not let us rest content with a national movement, let us have leagues or unions or associations in every locality. That is the emphatic and unqualified dictum of the Physical Deterioration report. It will be a fine thing to save the lives of 100,000 babies every year and to improve the physique of 600,000 more; but what about the one poor baby in the next street its face puckered with perpetual pain a protest against living? What about the worn-out weary woman strained past mortal endurance by weeks of wailing? There is the one case that someone ought to be helping. It will take a national league to save the 100,000 but unless you get some one mother-hearted woman to look after and help the one, there will not one of the 100,000 be saved. The big national scheme by all means but also the infinitesimally small local and individual effort. The particular must not be lost in the general: there is no whole that is not made up of parts and to most people it is the part that lies nearest and perhaps seems smallest that is for each to try to do.

I am, yours respectfully,  
BENJAMIN BROADBENT.

#### WOMEN TEACHERS IN BOYS' SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—Some time ago the point was raised in your columns as to the insecurity of tenure of lady teachers



in boys' secondary schools. There is no doubt that it is a very important question, and may seriously affect the supply of really first-class teachers. It is not to be expected that a teacher of any experience and success will care to take up work in a school where her position is so precarious as to render it uncertain whether her services are likely to be required permanently, or are liable to be dispensed with at the will of a present-day Education Committee.

If it be admitted—and I believe most educational experts are agreed on the subject—that women teachers are a necessary adjunct of any school where little boys are received, it is probable that their present insecure position is merely temporary. It may be due rather to the fact that the benches of our Education Committees are filled with men of such radical tendencies that unless drastic changes are wrought under their rule they are unsatisfied, than because women's services are not appreciated by those most capable of judging. There will, doubtless, be a reaction before long, and with the swing of the pendulum in the opposite direction matters will probably adjust themselves more satisfactorily.

If women teachers would take more interest in boys' games, and qualify themselves to be able to take the place of a master in superintending their cricket and other outdoor pursuits there is little doubt that they would soon become absolutely indispensable. It is frequently a difficult matter to arrange for a master to undertake the games of the preparatory boys, and in some cases is, I believe, a main factor in deciding against having a lady teacher for the small boys.

Now that games and athletics of all kinds are being encouraged so greatly in girls' schools there should be little or no difficulty in supplying this growing demand for women who can not only teach the little boys all that is required of them intellectually, but who can also train them in their physical pursuits.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

GERTRUDE OCTAVIA ROBINSON.

#### INDISCRIMINATE CHARITY.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Wick Court, near Bristol, 5 June, 1905.

SIR,—If the principle underlying the Unemployed Bill be once recognised by the State, I think certain "outside" practical benefits will result to society at large and, as I can find nowhere reference to this effect of the Bill, I try now to point out what these benefits may be.

Many in towns, very many living in the country are constantly troubled by their inability to resist the temptation to give indiscriminate charity. I admit at once that it is sentiment which is at fault and therefore, at first thought, I may appear absurd in writing. But we have lately had experience of an Eastern nation, by the force of sentiment alone, destroying hundreds of thousands of its enemies and sinking numberless battle-ships, thereby rising to the position of one of the greatest Powers in the universe. So it cannot be denied that sentiment may be of commercial use,—a fact which gives me some hope that what is now written may be of interest to Englishmen.

On what foundation does this temptation to give indiscriminate charity rest?

I suspect there is not one of us who has the remotest desire to give the idle loafer pecuniary assistance. But we know there are periods when thousands on thousands of honest men who want honest work, cannot find honest work and are idle and starving. It is this knowledge which moves us to foolish, sentimental alms—we risk giving help to the nineteen worthless, lest the one man worthy escape.

Suppose, however, we all knew that the honest man can always find honest labour? Suppose each one of us were near some centre to which we could send those applying to us; some centre where any such poor fellow could certainly get work to give him at least bread and cheese?

Then I say that foul, that very foul thing, indiscrimi-

nate charity, would die from inanition: the weak sentiment in our hearts, now feeding it, would dry up.

We—I admit my personal sinning—by indiscriminate charity have created and support a most worthless and useless class. No man has a right to live who can and will not work. But we are weak and shall go on in our evil course until the State removes temptation from us by recognising the right in the honest man who can work, to find work. As for the others—are there not gallows still in Great Britain and Ireland?

Your obedient servant,

F. C. CONSTABLE.

#### CONVENTIONS IN BRIDGE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The New Bridge Club, 18 Wellington Court,  
Knightsbridge, S.W.

10 June, 1905.

SIR,—Mr. Cunningham's letter in your issue of this morning is very nicely argued, but his statement that, to double under the short-suit convention, the third hand must have ace, king and queen with four of a suit, is, like most statements concerning bridge, too sweeping. And it is owing to their persistent belief in just this kind of statement and maxim that the players by theory almost always lose at bridge where the practical players win. They read it fresh from the pen of a recognised authority, swear by it, quote it, go further and act upon it, making no allowance for circumstances, and come to grief.

I wonder what Mr. Cunningham himself would have done in my case, last night, at the moment when his letter was in the press. The adversaries had scored a game and six to our twenty-eight in the second game. The dealer passed and dummy declared No Trumps (on a strong three-suit hand). I, as third hand, had one long suit of ace, king, knave, ten and three others; no other card above a ten. Would he not have doubled as I did?

It happened that my partner led the queen of my suit; we made the odd trick and game and afterwards won the third game. But the result would have been the same if she had led a small card and dummy had held the queen twice guarded.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER TEIXEIRA DE MATTOS.

#### SALOMÉ.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

6 June, 1905.

SIR,—I was very glad to see Mr. Robert Ross' letter in your REVIEW of May 27. I was one in the crowded audiences that saw "Salomé" and in common with many others who were present admired the performance very much—the play, the acting and the mise-en-scène. The criticisms in the press that followed on the whole were what one expected. Could one expect anything other than what one got from the "Telegraph" or most of the other daily papers? The standard there is popularity and, except in the case of musical pieces, is measured by a sham modesty: and "Salomé" is not likely to be popular, nor is it suitable for the Gaiety or kindred theatres.

But to make jibes about the "very bijou" theatre at which it was performed with scathing remarks about the theatre being in Bayswater is carrying daily criticism very low down. It reminds one of long bygone criticism of John Keats as a poet's name, and still further back of Nazareth as a place of origin.

Your obedient servant,

A. B. CLIFTON.

## REVIEWS.

## "MISERRIMUS."

"The Poems of Ernest Dowson." London and New York: Lane. 1905. 5s.

IN February 1900 in a bricklayer's cottage on the outskirts of Catford tended by the charity of a single friend died Ernest Dowson. Only thirty-three years old he was already worn out. Had he lived the most regular life death still, perhaps, would have come upon him young. The signs of a fatal delicacy were his from the beginning. Probably he was always careless of himself: certainly for the last ten years of his life he was utterly reckless. It is no use hiding the fact that he was his own worst enemy. By those who knew him personally, and within a narrow circle these were not a few, he was well loved. For there was a singular fascination about him; the exact words to describe this are—a delicate charm. In his best days this delicate charm was physical; and even to the end in his better moments the sweetness of his manner and character was irresistible. But in the literal, though not in the conventional, sense of the word he was insane: and one sign of this radical unsoundness was that more and more he cut himself away from his best companions, hid himself away in strange places, and so at last died almost alone.

Five years after his death appears now this collected volume of his poems, and it is well that it should appear. It bears as its preface a notice Mr. Arthur Symonds wrote of him at the time of his death. In this notice Mr. Symonds tells all about Dowson that need be told, and with great delicacy and justice gives us an appreciation of his work. "Dowson could never have developed", he says; "he had already said, in his first book of verse, all that he had to say". That may seem a hard judgment, but we believe that it is a sound judgment. There are men who come to their perfection early; men for whom the experiences of life, though various and prolonged through many years, bring little growth of wisdom or accomplishment. It is hardly to be doubted that such a man was Ernest Dowson. To our mind the most original, the most memorable poem in the present volume is that to Cynara, with its infinitely sad, haunting refrain, "I have been faithful to thee, Cynara! in my fashion". And that poem appeared first, we believe, in "The Century Guild Hobby Horse" as long ago as the year 1891.

When Dowson died short notices of him appeared in several of the papers, some of which were shameful in their insolent brutality. The smart journalist caught readily for "copy" at what was obvious and lamentable in this sad life, and revelled in holding it up to scorn, thinking to show his own virility by coarse mockery and denunciation. Ten years or so ago that kind of boisterous, sham virility had hold of many of our younger writers, and found many readers foolish enough to applaud it as something genuine and healthy. It was of course an inevitable reaction from what is popularly known as the æsthetic movement with its artistic and literary preciosity. But for the most part these virilists were as little genuinely men as also for the most part were the æsthetes they so furiously drove at. There may be an affectation of common sense and healthiness quite as unsound and paltry as the affectation of rare, delicate passion and subtilty. It was one of Ernest Dowson's misfortunes that he died before this former affectation had spent itself, and at the moment his memory and his friends suffered cruelly at its hands.

Than Dowson himself no more genuine, less affected creature breathed. He had about him not one trace of the poser. But he was an exceptionally sensitive youth, who happened to be an undergraduate at Oxford just in the midst of a time when a strange and fatal wave of literary and artistic affectation swept over that University. The misunderstood writings of Mr. Pater, the too well understood writings and examples of Oscar Wilde, Verlaine, Baudelaire, told fatally upon a number of brilliant young men then in residence as students. Even the austere genius and exemplar of Matthew Arnold had something to do with this pernicious influence, so completely at times and for a time can the

devil bring about evil out of good. These young men thought to remove themselves into an air rarer than that breathed by their fellows, by holding themselves aloof from the interests and pursuits of ordinary young English gentlemen, by assuming the manners and feelings of a matured and somewhat world-weary experience, by thinking and walking along strange paths of passion and self-indulgence. They set themselves, or they thought they set themselves, to attain new and subtle sensations by habits of thought and by practices that seemed to them to promise weird curiosities, turning night into day, day into night, subversive of everything that presented itself to them as established by ordinary rules of order and convenience.

It may seem curious, but it is undoubtedly true, that accompanying this morbid intellectual and moral attitude, these young men affected also an admiration for the more modern and sentimental devotions and practices of the Roman Church. Some of them formally entered her communion, all of them played with her. In either case, so far as one might judge from appearances, their admiration had no effect upon the healthiness or uprightness of their ways. It was entirely with them an affair of sentiment and curiosity—if one may so say, it was as if they were wholly enamoured of, intoxicated by the mere sensuous colour of Roman Catholicism: along its austere paths of self-discipline in daily life they made little effort to walk.

And both these aberrations of religious sentiment and of intellectual and moral attitude claimed Ernest Dowson as their victim. In this fate many companions there were with him: but perhaps of all of them he was the most single-hearted, the most genuine. You see the effect of these aberrations clearly enough in every poem of this volume. In not one of them is there any sense of the clean joy of love, of the exhilarating joy in open nature, of the strenuous joy in aiming at the advancement in happiness of the men and women one lives amongst. It is all weariness and vexation of spirit, or it is the heated joy of wine and of emotions born amidst languorous perfumes that bring strange visions and thoughts. To the most casual reader this is obvious, and probably irritating. Certainly there is no getting away from it; and such a reader may be pardoned if he concludes that the whole attitude of the poet is a strained, unreal attitude. But he is mistaken. Many young men no doubt have written overstrained despairing verses, thinking it fine so to do—but Dowson never did. He was in sad reality overwrought, despairing, hyper-sensitive, fantastical: it could alas! only have been sheer affectation with him had he given us a poem full of pure, simple delight in pure, simple things, or full of manly delight in strenuous effort. Let us not ask from the giver more than he has to give. If his gift is a sincere one, let us make the best of it we can.

And granted the limitations imposed by his intellectual gifts and his physical weakness Ernest Dowson was a real poet, who out of many and some strange things called forth much delicate beauty, and wrought his visions and emotions into great charm of artistic expression. He was curiously fastidious about his workmanship, and his fastidiousness is justified. The musical fall of his poems is always delightful, and is often exquisite—most exquisite when it takes a moment or two, perhaps, exactly to catch it. We may well believe that a few of these poems at least will live and be treasured, never indeed by the many, but by those who are sensitive to music and choice expression, and to sentiment that is genuine, however fatally stamped with too much sadness, born of disease. We do right to lament the disease that dwarfs and mars: but do not let it dull our appreciation of the beauty actually accomplished.

## THE FUTURE OF EAST AFRICA.

"The East Africa Protectorate." By Sir Charles Eliot. London: Arnold. 1905. 15s. net.

SIR CHARLES ELIOT'S latest book is, like some other works of his, the best of its order. Not very many years ago, under the pseudonym of "Odysseus", appeared a standard book entitled "Turkey in



Europe" by the same author and now we have from him a most instructive and interesting account of our East African possessions. Unfortunately, it by no means follows that a brilliant writer is a born administrator; were it so Sir Charles Eliot would have been as great a success at the Foreign Office as he is in the literary world, for nothing could exceed the interest, the deep research and the knowledge shown in the present work. The author starts from the bed-rock of his subject, unusual in most books of its kind, and by many brilliant chapters, far too brief, draws us on to modern days and current politics.

Thus the early history of the East Africa Protectorate is exhaustively discussed, as also the geographical aspect of the country. We are told of an early settlement in these regions at Makdisha which dates back to A.D. 908 and an even earlier visit by the Chinese two centuries before. From early Egyptian days down to the occupation of the country by the British East Africa Association, the author parades with increasing interest the many visitors that have landed on these inhospitable shores, a list which includes the well-known names of Vasco da Gama, Henry the Navigator, Ali Bey, the Turkish corsair, and a host of other well-known explorers.

As a geographical treatise the first and fifth chapters are admirable; as a guide to traders and intending emigrants we doubt whether anything better has ever been published. Further, the several coast lands, including Zanzibar, Jubaland and Tanaland, are treated at length, the trading capacity of each being fully discussed; to say nothing of harbours, rivers, and the general fauna and flora of the country of which the predominant feature is the thorny acacia, symbolised by the author as the "vegetable image of democracy".

There is also an interesting chapter on the "Natives of East Africa", Swahilis, Somalis, &c., as also the entire category of Bantu-speaking tribes, who possess the typical African characteristic, indifference to money, coupled with an inordinate desire to possess wives and cattle. Such an attitude of mind says little for the prosperity of the Protectorate in the near future, particularly too as the author informs us "the native mind is far nearer to the animal world than is that of the European or Asiatic".

Further on the language of these various Nilotic tribes is discussed with much erudition. We can only regret that Sir Charles Eliot has not allowed us more information on this most interesting subject, for it is evident that in civilisation such dialects entirely lose their local colour which is dulled, and live instead by a bastard vocabulary as the order of things changes. Thus "cotee" coat, "queenee" queen, and such words pervade the native dialects to the exclusion of native terms.

We are reminded that there is a very widespread belief that East Africa is "a land of swamps and deserts". In reality, for a country situated on the Equator, the climate is extraordinarily healthy. That there are drawbacks is but natural; though if only good accommodation were more general, there would be no more disadvantages to encounter generally speaking than are to be met with in Europe. As the author rightly says, "though not critical of any climate near home, Europeans become exceedingly exacting in their demands as to the tropics", and then he goes on to say that the worst climate he has ever experienced is that of New York, which presents "all the disadvantages of the Arctic and the Torrid zones". To sum up the question as to the suitability of the country for European settlers: there is little doubt that in the course of a very few years East Africa will be as healthy a colony as any at present under the Crown. Hitherto the primitive conditions of living—bad accommodation and indifferent food—have been the main cause of sickness. These deficiencies are being gradually rectified, so that with very ordinary care and a proportionate amount of exercise—a very important item in tropical life—the intending settler will have little to complain of from the point of view of himself or family.

As to minerals, investigations so far have proved fruitless. Gold and silver have been prospected for

by various syndicates, with the result, so far, that the search has terminated in the discovery of nothing more valuable than mica, iron, opals and agates. Perhaps it is well that things are thus ordained, for there is little doubt that agriculture and mineralogy are far from being the best companions in a new country. What is required in East Africa is a gradual and sure development of existing resources, and any movement that would hurry the order of Nature must ultimately result in a reaction disadvantageous to the country, as also to the inhabitants. It is to be hoped therefore that, for the present, the course of agriculture will not be disturbed by more speculative industries such as mining, for should gold be found in any quantity there is little doubt that settlers will forsake their present occupations and embark in wild land speculations. In all such colonies the great object to be arrived at, if the undertaking is to be a real success, is the fostering of a sound and contented resident population, capable of developing every resource the country possesses. In this respect the outlook, so far, is most promising in that the vegetable products of the Protectorate are one and all receiving attention. The great forests supply wood for building purposes, the sugar-cane grows well, whilst maize, cotton, coffee and indeed every conceivable fruit and vegetable grow in abundance. As to the prospects of pasturage they are quite as flourishing, and as this particular form of husbandry is the one and only native industry of any account, and has been from time immemorial, the stock farmer is making no experiment when he embarks on such a venture: indeed the climate, feeding and general breeding conditions are equal to any in the world.

It is unnecessary here to inquire into the past administration of the Protectorate by the Foreign Office. Fortunately the diplomatic department has recently retired from its administrative rôle in favour of the Colonial Office. We may hopefully look forward to a wiser and more prosperous era in East Africa. Would that the change had been sooner, for it is evident that much harm has already been done by the "crazy projects" and "muddling" initiated in Downing Street by some incompetent official. But as in South Africa, so in East, the great question for the future is Labour. How, when the advantages of the country are fully appreciated; how, when settlers have arrived in sufficient numbers to cultivate the enormous tracts of corn and cattle producing areas, is the requisite labour to be obtained? Here is the riddle of East Africa. The native has, at present, few wants. Until quite recently "cattle", "wire" and "cloth" were the coin of his savage realm and for nothing else would he work. The first was naturally a very difficult form of "legal tender", few Europeans possessing cattle, certainly in any quantity, to expend in wages. Thus "wire" and "cloth" were given in exchange for labour. By degrees however the native desire for such articles became satiated, and he again wanted nothing but cattle. The question now naturally arises, "stock" as wage being impossible, what other inducement can be held out to tempt him to work? The first incentive to labour is to create a want. According to Sir Charles Eliot, the natives in some parts are taking very kindly to pastoral employment. Considerable time however must elapse before the inclination is general; meanwhile the development of the country must be slow. But however warily we tread there is little doubt that in the future the "labour question" is bound to arise, for the native population, or at any rate that part of it which may be regarded as a working asset, is out of all proportion to the capabilities of the country. With this difficulty in view, it is to be hoped that the Colonial Office will cut its coat accordingly. If the native population of East Africa is decreasing, it would be well if possible to institute a remedy or at any rate to arrest, by all possible means, the decline, otherwise in a few decades we shall be compelled to ask once more the assistance of China to supply the deficiency.

We are glad to notice Sir Charles Eliot's tribute to missionary enterprise. Rarely have we read such encomiums. The modern spirit is very much inclined to jeer at missionaries as agencies of civilisation: it is

therefore most encouraging to find that in East Africa they too have borne some of the burden and heat of the day.

#### ACTA MARTYRUM.

"The Historic Martyrs of the Primitive Church." By Arthur James Mason. London: Longmans. 1905. 10s. 6d. net.

THE Master of Pembroke, Cambridge, has brought together in a sifted and trustworthy form the chief records of the passion of the primitive martyrs, whose blood was the seed of the Church. The story begins with S. James the Just and ends in 304 with little Hilarian of Africa, killed, those who would turn children out of church during the Christian mysteries may observe, for presence at the Dominicum. The tale is best left unadorned. In fact, many of the narratives, for instance the sickening horrors of the Cilician martyrdoms, are a transcript of the paid shorthand-writer's verbatim report of the judicial proceedings. It is not everybody who should read these pages. The modern reader is not unlikely to discover in himself anger at a religion which demands such terrible fidelity. Yet he must also feel amazed at a religion which could give strength to its disciples to endure not only with constancy but with joy agonies which no pen can describe. He will find himself asking, has it the same power now? Is our religion the religion of the primitive Christians? Or, if Christianity seems now but a winter's sunlight, but a fading fresco on a sanctuary wall, what is the reason? Men will die now, will, it may be, even suffer anguish, for an inspiring cause. But we can hardly imagine in Brighton or Birmingham a constant stream of ordinary men, women and children who bear the Christian name coming forward with ardour to offer themselves for hours, days and weeks of incredible torment rather than pay a trifling act of homage to another cult. *Juxta fidem defuncti*. But creeds, we are lightly assured, are nothing, merely different aspects of truth. An honest and benevolent life is the only thing which matters, and this can be lived under any mode of religion.

Those "senseless zealots", however, who perished by twenty excruciating deaths in one for a Master who had drunk the bitter cup for them had not received this comfortable doctrine. Possibly they would have displayed no very remarkable enthusiasm for a God who was identical with cosmical laws or with a stream of tendency making for righteousness. To offer a pinch of incense, or perform some colourable act which might be accepted instead, to the gods or the genius of Cæsar was, in their view, to deny the Lord that bought them. Observe that the martyrs were not usually called on to vilify Jesus Christ, but only to consent for a moment to a pagan rite. A deity more or less made no difference in the pantheon of antiquity. The magistrates, however ruthlessly they carried out the decree of torture and death when passed, usually—not, however, the "wolf" Lysias or the ferocious Maximus—endeavoured to find some loophole of escape for their prisoners. But Christianity is an obstinately exclusive and uncompromising devotion, and the world finds its unearthly claims just as absurd, awkward and irritating now as it did seventeen centuries ago.

It is impossible for a thoughtful person to handle these records without a great awe and wonder. The martyrs were not picked champions. And the first love of Christianity had had time to grow cold. Look at Foxe's complaint of the cooling of Elizabethan enthusiasm for the scriptures, or Burnet's account of Huguenot unspirituality. But even granted that one might expect to find the unearthly exaltation, the rapturous intoxication, of a S. Ignatius in average Christians and chance neophytes two centuries later, and make what allowance you please for the power of an absorbing idea, that of winning the martyr's crown, still the prospect of an immediate Paradise will make the Arab rush on certain death, but it would not nerve even him to welcome with cries of joy the rack, the weights, the rods, the boiling oil, the slow fire, the red-hot plates, the iron chair, the torch, the claw, the

hook, the comb, the knife, the shattering of teeth, the breaking of ankles and wrists, ending with crucifixion, beheadal, the wild beasts, the stake, or drowning either with a stone round the neck or in a sack with reptiles. The poor body when one mass of sores and wounds and burns would be scraped sometimes with potsherds, rubbed with vinegar and brine, and then chained down upon broken glass. One eye would be cut out and the socket seared with a glowing iron. Women, their breasts cut away, were hung up by one foot without a shred of covering, or given over to more devilish brutalities. These and other torments inflicted by a "magnificently tolerant" paganism are coldly recorded by its own votaries. Yet eager claimants for them, men, women, and children, were never wanting. There were apostasies—and the Church historians record these faithfully—but hardly ever under torture or protracted imprisonment. Timothy and his seventeen-year-old bride Maura, she tasting the love of God for the first time, hung on crosses facing one another for a whole week, comforting one another with visions. Martyr after martyr declared that the tortures were like sweet oil outpoured. Sometimes they were defiant and aggressive but usually they were collected and unfrenzied, yet said they felt no anguish. "I saw the glory of the Lord", said Carpus simply, "and was glad". Angels, they averred, would come to assuage their pain. Their prison was lighted with an unearthly radiance. Is there any merely psychological explanation of these facts? It is idle to talk about fanaticism. Besides, the laws of the Church strictly forbade unnecessary courting of persecution. Marcus Aurelius, the bitterest of the persecutors, contrasted unfavourably the Christian with the Stoical constancy. The former, he said, was merely theatrical and unreasonable. To us it seems the difference between faith's rapture and a priggish philosophical pose.

Dr. Mason is so anxious to exclude all legendary elements that he is disposed to rationalise the visions and miraculous incidents which Origen and Eusebius, after thorough investigation, solemnly vouch for. Perhaps he regards the last verses of S. Mark as a fictitious record. The exact fulfilment of S. Cyprian's vision is a "coincidence" which we commend to the Psychical Researchers. A remarkable point about the sufferings of the martyrs is their contempt for their living bodies, though temples of the Holy Ghost, contrasted with their acceptance of devout veneration to be paid to their mangled relics, "more precious than costly stones and finer than gold", even disposing of them by will. Yet they left to Christ, the faithful and true Witness, the title of Martyr. That cures were worked by their relics, as by the kerchiefs taken from S. Paul's person, was universally believed. Especial efficacy was also attributed to their intercessions, as passing straight to the beatific Vision. Primitive Christianity was not Protestant.

It should be observed that "acts" of martyrs (*acta* not *actus*) were official reports of trials, "passiones" freer treatments of the martyrdoms for purposes of edification and liturgical use. In the expression "*acta sanctorum*" the word has become generalised. Dom Leclercq's fine article "*Actes des Martyrs*" in the new "*Dictionnaire d'Archéologie Chrétienne*" fully illustrates the subject.

#### CHINESE SENTIMENTALITY.

"Cantonese Love-songs." By Cecil Clementi. Two Vols. Oxford: at the Clarendon Press. 1905. 21s. net.

THERE is something about a Chinaman that leads one to dissociate him altogether from sentimentality. He certainly does not look sentimental, and there is little in his bringing up or in his environment to make him so. In his relations with his parents the question of affection is a secondary consideration; what is required of children, more especially of sons—for daughters are on an inferior plane—being unquestioning submission and almost slavish respect. No familiarity is permissible on the part of a son to his father, and in a lesser degree to his mother, after he



has passed the age of early childhood, and demonstrations of affection are, as a matter of fact, hardly compatible with the filial reverence that is the highest of religious duties. Even brothers and sisters in well-regulated families see little of each other when they reach their "teens", and a Chinese youth never gets an opportunity of mixing in any female society except that of his nearest relatives of an earlier generation. Marriage, again, is regarded in the light of a necessary institution for securing the birth of male children who shall continue the worship of their ancestors, the neglect of which is a sin. No sentiment attaches to betrothals, which are more or less business transactions arranged by parents through the medium of a matrimonial agent, and mutual affection plays no part in the selection, as the parties directly concerned have never had an opportunity of meeting or probably even seeing each other before the marriage day. The bride is a chattel, and her duty in life is to serve her husband, to bear him sons and to be the obedient slave of her mother-in-law. It can hardly be wondered at that under such conditions love, in its best and truest sense, is hardly recognised in China; indeed, there is no word in the language that adequately expresses it. Affection and dutiful care on the part of a wife are a frequent theme of Chinese poetry, and the subject is again and again dwelt upon in the "Book of Odes", a collection of ancient poems compiled by Confucius which every Chinese schoolboy knows by heart. There are also many of these poems in which the wife, displaced from her proper position as mistress of the family, deploras her hard lot, but we never find there, or elsewhere, any reference to the devotion of a husband to his wife. This is by no means a moral obligation on his part, nor is male constancy required by any code of Chinese ethics. Polygamy is, and always has been, recognised as legitimate, and in the case of the failure of male offspring as almost obligatory. The devoted wife is expected to acquiesce in her husband's selection of a second partner, and when she herself is childless, to encourage it. In the "Book of Odes" a bride is compared to a dove, but the point of comparison lies in the stupidity of the bird. Slavish submission is woman's duty and her highest praise: she ought not to originate anything, but to be satisfied with doing in all loyal subjection what is prescribed to her to do. It is no undesirable thing for a wife to be stupid, whereas a wise and opinionative wife is likely to be rather a nuisance than a blessing. That there was, and often is, genuine affection between husband and wife is true enough. Many wives in Chinese history have entered into the ambitions of their husbands and spurred them on to noble enterprise, while many more have sympathised with them in their trials and misfortunes. In this, however, they did no more than was expected of them, and it not infrequently happens that marriages, which are loveless and obligatory service not always cheerfully performed, are regarded as insipid on the part of the husband, or that Chinese men of amorous tastes grow tired of the only female society that is permissible and go elsewhere in search of affection which they cannot claim as a right. Hence, "Love-songs", as they are styled by the translator of the book under review, can, as he says, have only one possible meaning to a Chinaman and thereby lose much of the delicacy which they retain for English ears.

Mr. Clementi has done his work well, indeed almost too well, for he has imparted a gloss and elegance to many of the poems in their English dress which they hardly possess in the original. It is readily admitted that Chinese verse is almost incapable of literal reproduction in English, but in reading Mr. Clementi's paraphrase one cannot but feel that it is to a great extent an improvement on the original. The book is a scholarly production, and the notes explanatory of the numerous quotations with which the songs abound will be of advantage to the student of Chinese, but it seems almost a pity that Mr. Clementi should have applied his scholarship to the translation of a work that possesses small literary value in the eyes of the Chinese themselves beyond the limited area of the dialect in which the poems are written. The poetry, if such it may be called, is in the original more or less of a jangle which loses its attractiveness even to the Chinese ear

if it is separated from the accompaniment of the native guitar, and it is quite certain that even if, as Mr. Clementi says, every coolie does know and sing these songs, he cannot understand a tithe of their meaning. The English reader will probably find more to interest him in the introductory chapters than in the songs themselves.

#### THE YOUNG NAPOLEON.

"Napoleon: The First Phase." By Oscar Browning. London: Lane. 1905. 10s. 6d. net.

MR. BROWNING has done well to bring before English readers in a comprehensive form the story of Napoleon's youth. Indeed we are surprised that the researches of Masson and Chuquet have had to wait so long for an English interpreter. The episodes of the great conqueror's early years must have an invincible fascination for all who have any interest in the development of character apart from the mere record of facts in themselves of profound significance. Mr. Browning, who has investigated "all the sources mentioned in Kircheisen's bibliography", has not succeeded in adding anything material to what we have already learned from Chuquet's "*Jeunesse de Napoléon*" or Masson's "*Napoléon inconnu*" and we cannot therefore expect to find in his narrative much more than an abridgment of the French authorities.

This extraordinary romance would lose nothing if Mr. Browning had remembered that a majority of his readers will not be experts in the period, and therefore will require more assistance than he has always been willing to give them. For instance he introduces names without supplying explanations that would greatly enhance the interest of the story. The Abbé Raynal and M. Permon are cases in point. There is nothing to enlighten the reader as to the nature of the Abbé's writings or their profound interest for Napoleon, and, save to those who have already read the *Memoirs of the Duchesse d'Abrantès*, the name of M. Permon conveys little, certainly not the intimate connexion that existed between his family and the Buonapartes. Then there is often a lack of clearness about dates which makes it difficult to follow without confusion the frequent comings and goings of Napoleon between France and Corsica. But these are minor blemishes and the service rendered by the writer to English readers is considerable. Mr. Browning we think rightly dismisses as untenable the theory that there was a deliberate substitution of Joseph for Napoleon as the eldest son of Charles and Letitia. That theory first received wide currency from Jung and found plausible support from the original entry of the eldest son's name in the register as "Nabulione". This is explained by the fact that an elder son had been born and died just before the birth of Napoleon's surviving elder brother who then received the additional name of Joseph which had belonged to the first and which now stands inserted in the register before "Nabulione". The story that a fraud was perpetrated in order that a year might be subtracted from Napoleon's age to permit of his entry into Bienne in 1779 (ten years being the age limit) seems inadmissible. The younger members of the family certainly knew nothing of it for they always looked upon Joseph as the eldest.

Mr. Browning's volume covers the twenty-four years that elapsed between Napoleon's birth and his first striking military success at Toulon. The important part is that which traces his career from his entry into the school of Bienne and may be divided into two periods, the first devoted to ardent study and the second to persistent efforts to establish himself and his brothers as the predominant factors in the government of Corsica. The second period again has two distinct phases; during the first the Buonapartes are the pronounced supporters of Paoli and his policy, during the last they are his bitterest enemies. Nothing is more striking even at this early age than the concentrated passion evident in everything written or wrought by Napoleon. He pursues the foes of Corsica and his family with pen and sword with the ferocity of a vendetta. In this the boy was father to the man; the murder of the Duc d'Enghien was a

truly Corsican stroke. The ambushes stratagems and violence of these early escapades are the earnest of the future. The brutality exhibited at times by his partisans seems to have met with no reproof and Mr. Browning greatly impairs his book as a critical monograph by his inability to see anything worthy of blame in his hero's conduct. When he does make a concession to accepted standards of conduct he hardly does it with conviction. For example, Napoleon had arranged (and contrived to effect his purpose) that a Government commissioner should be forcibly abducted from his opponent's house and installed in his own on the day before an election in which he was personally interested. Mr. Browning's reflection is that "it is difficult to criticise this transaction because we do not know enough about Corsican manners and customs". We know that it was entirely consistent with them and with Napoleon's character. It was in fact his first coup d'état.

Again in the course of these faction feuds Napoleon's men "committed acts of pillage, seized the flour of the mills, devastated the country and killed the cattle". This conduct, Mr. Browning generously concedes, "cannot be defended". Such perfunctory censure is distinctly humorous for on a subsequent page, after an allusion to "boyish intemperance" the author goes on to show how all these events in Corsica demonstrate Napoleon "to be born for the conduct of great affairs". This is true enough but they also display the grave defects in temperament which were only magnified on a larger stage.

Peraldi's indictment of the Buonaparte brothers and their conduct in Corsica was true enough. "To take vengeance on the party opposed to them, they seize the opportunity of a private quarrel: they fire on innocent citizens and do not listen to the voice of the law, they devastate property, blockade an entire city and finally conclude a treaty of peace as if they were a hostile power". This is an exact statement of facts and those facts were entirely in accordance with the Corsican character and the career of the Buonapartes. In this early stage of life Napoleon's whole point of view is Corsican, and he regards the Revolution in the main as an opportunity for establishing his own power in his native land. When Paoli shows himself deaf to his blandishments he attacks him with the same concentrated fury he had exhibited against Buttafuoco and the exile of the Buonapartes is the natural result of their failure to overturn the national hero.

There is no reason to disbelieve in the young Napoleon's love for Corsica. It is plain on every page of his early history, but equally plain is the growth of ambition and cynicism grafted on the lawlessness and passion inherited from his Corsican ancestry. Nothing is more curious than the audacity with which he breaks military rules, or the good luck which again and again enables him to retrieve his position. These breaches of duty may be excused perhaps by the general license of the revolutionary epoch, but there is surely a strange lack of humour in trying to represent this incorrigible young adventurer as a model of decorum. Mr. Browning, by overdoing his eulogy, misses the most instructive side of his story. The "Souper de Beaucaire" which was written by Napoleon in 1793 and which Mr. Browning gives us almost in extenso shows that a cynical determination to use circumstances for his own advancement has taken the place of the naïve enthusiasm of the "Lettre à Buttafuoco". But Mr. Browning will not recognise this and tells us instead that in all this story there is "not a single example of meanness or of dishonesty, or of any derogation from the high standard of conduct which he had set before himself". Surely, after we have read the tale of the attack on Ajaccio and the accompanying circumstances as well as of subsequent events this is protesting overmuch! If Mr. Browning had been contented with saying that Napoleon's conduct may be excused by the political intemperance of his epoch, and that his standard was that of contemporary Corsica he would have been more convincing. The whole theory of the "Souper de Beaucaire" is the theory of accomplished facts and the desirability of joining the stronger side, which means that there is no moral standard in politics high or otherwise. No doubt there is much to explain and to excuse

this change of the young Napoleon from enthusiast to cynic but to say there is no derogation from a high standard of conduct is not to take the attitude of an historian but of a panegyrist. And can Mr. Browning be serious in suggesting that the curious document entitled "Un rencontre au Palais Royal" which he prints and translates is merely "an exercise in composition"? It bears every sign of a true story and only an exaggerated desire to find in the young Napoleon the model of every virtue can hold otherwise.

If Mr. Browning had refrained from pushing his hero-worship to such extravagant lengths, he might have written a book of greater weight, but in spite of these slips he has given us a treatise of deep interest which will not detract from the reputation he has already attained in this field of historical inquiry.

#### NOVELS.

"The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne." By William J. Locke. London: Lane. 1905. 6s.

Mr. Locke has achieved something of a new success with "The Morals of Marcus Ordeyne". He has devised a somewhat daring story and has brought it through a variety of difficulties to what will be considered by most readers as a satisfactory close. Marcus Ordeyne was an under schoolmaster when a death removed at one fell swoop the holder of a baronetcy, and the four next heirs, and he thus stepped into an independence and a title. Fortune however did not cease her vagaries at this point. She took him to the Thames Embankment much as she might have taken any other simple person in the "Arabian Nights" (Old or New) only to introduce him to a girl in eccentric clothing who is hunting for "Harry". Harry having inveigled the girl from an Oriental harem has vanished into thin air, and she throws herself under the protection of her companion of the Thames Embankment Gardens—Sir Marcus Ordeyne. What is he to do? Here is a pretty problem for one who has got no further advanced than mathematics in the matter of problems. How Sir Marcus faces it, his trials and tribulations before attaining to a solution, are well set forth by Mr. Locke. The problem is complicated by the fact that the baronet has already an intimate lady friend. We should like to have seen a solution in which that friend's errant husband did not return in the aspect of a Stiggins, and we have a lingering feeling that Sir Marcus made the choice least promising of future quiet and content. The story is unconventional, it is interesting, and it is well written. The author has an unhappy knack of dropping into French, German, Latin and even Greek—a habit which is not demanded of those who cater for the circulating libraries; and he has a way of using uncommon words—"the deep summer enchantment of the turquoise day was itself ensorcelised by the witchery of a girl's springtide"—of which he seems to have been conscious when he wrote this happy paragraph: "We have the richest language that ever a people has accreted, and we use it as if it were the poorest. We hoard up our infinite wealth of words between the boards of dictionaries and in speech dole out the worn bronze coinage of our vocabulary. We are the misers of philological history. And when we can save our pennies and pass the counterfeit coin of slang, we are as happy as if we heard a blind beggar thank us for putting a pewter sixpence into his hat." Mr. Locke has, too, a pretty way of putting things as when he says that in the right perspective "one would see how important or unimportant in the cosmos was the agricultural ant's dream of three millimetres and an aphid compared with the aspirations of the English labourer". Three inches and an aphid would have been a better proportion—but then Mr. Locke would have had to forgo the use of a French word.

"A Woman and her Talent." By Louise Jordan Miln. London. Blackwood. 1905. 6s.

Mrs. Miln is the author of several volumes, but we do not remember reading a novel of hers before. That she has ability as a writer of fiction her story abundantly shows, but it also shows that she might have



done better had she more rigorously revised her work before publication, if she had a keener sense of humour and—in one instance that we can scarcely particularise—a closer knowledge of the root-meanings of words. Her woman with a talent is the only daughter of a Chicago multi-millionaire, Helen Winslow. We are introduced to Helen when she is fifteen years old, a beautiful girl with remarkable ability who is but a unit in a crowded college. The first part of the book, which deals with life at this college, is certainly the best, it interests us most and it presents us with the best individualised—though somewhat exaggerated—of Mrs. Miln's characters. With something of genius for writing Helen's true talent we take it was that for loving—she was the perfect woman nobly planned, and was more or less forced into the position of a popular writer. After she has attained that position we have less interest in her character and her romance. When the scene changes from New England to Old England we find that the story holds us less because it is presented with less of intimacy and insight. There is so much that is good in most of Mrs. Miln's writing that we resent the more such horrible sentences as "Cowden knew Ellen's footstep, and his almost a sigh almost lost its almost"; such ridiculous phrases as "You've caught some of the lilt of her attar". Does America have a calendar of its own? We are led to believe that it may from finding St. Valentine's Day described as "One night (at two in the morning), not long before Easter". Referring to Helen's first published article, her husband says, "I rejoice to find no split infinitives—though perhaps they rectified that at the office"; it is a pity some one did not do the same with "A Woman and her Talent"—we should have rejoiced the more.

"Sir Waldemar the Ganger: a Tale of the Days of King Haco." By Josephine Fotheringhame. London: Sampson Low. 1905. 3s. 6d.

Haco, King of Norway, being set upon the capture of the Western Isles and the overlordship of Scotland, fitted out an armada, and among those who sailed with him was Waldemar the Ganger. To this young Norseman nothing came amiss; giants, wild boars and recreant knights, he bested them all. No wonder he gained the devotion of the dwarf Brudi, king of the Pictish remnant who were wont to meet in midnight conclave at the stones of Stennis, in Orkney, and the love of the Lady Jean de Brus. Pictish Brudi, the best character in the book, is long at rest, but the stones of Stennis still remind the traveller of the Druidical rites of a distant age. There is plenty of colour and adventure in Miss Fotheringhame's story, and the reader shall be left to discover through what perilous passages the landless knight, Sir Waldemar, won riches and his bride. Sophisticated elders will question whether the atmosphere of the thirteenth century is happily conveyed by the use of such phraseology as "optic" for eye, "dexter" for right, and "circlet" for ring; they will also be reduced to silent wonderment by some of Mr. D. H. Souter's illustrations. But the book is not for them; it is for boys and girls, and boys and girls of all ages will enjoy it thoroughly.

"The Wise Woods." By Mrs. Henry Dudeney. London: Heinemann. 1905. 6s.

Vashti, the heroine of Mrs. Dudeney's new book, is the child of the marriage of a High Church clergyman with a gipsy girl. There are possibilities in such parentage. The gipsy strain predominates in Vashti. Orphaned and at liberty she takes to the woods, where she finds an old gipsy great-aunt, and lives with her such a life as Thoreau lived by Walden Pond. The violence of the old woman's foster-son drives her back to civilisation and Ambrose Belchamber, whom she had loved before the wise woods claimed her. It is to be thought that the wise woods would have disapproved her choice, not so much because Ambrose was a clerk on a hundred and ten pounds a year, as because he had failed in everything he attempted, and was not on the face of it likely to succeed as a husband. Yet he did at first succeed; the pair were ideally happy at Clapton, in spite of small means and the shifts which they entail. Mrs. Dudeney dwells insistently on the

minutiae of a life of this kind, in a manner which those who like "realism" at any cost will not blame. But Ambrose was foredoomed to failure. He surrendered to what appears a very slight temptation, and broke his wife's heart. What will Vashti do? Will she take to the woods again or immure herself in a convent, amid the rites of a religion she had long abjured? The reader is referred to Mrs. Dudeney's pages for Vashti's decision, which puts a period to this clever but depressing story.

"A Rough Reformer." By Ernest Glanville. London: Constable. 1905. 6s.

Westmacott Vane, the hero of this novel, is a financier who applies to useful purposes part of the wealth which he has acquired by remarkably shady processes. Harold Frederic would have made a good deal out of the theme, but Mr. Glanville is neither very interesting in his handling of Stock Exchange transactions nor quite at ease in delineating the horde of smart idlers who attach themselves to the millionaire. The hero's parents, on the other hand, are treated with skill. His father, an old clerk who had slaved through life on a wretched pittance, loses his head in the new atmosphere, while his mother makes a success of the model village community, and at the crisis forces her son into decent behaviour towards the victims of his market-rigging. The love interest is forced, but Mr. Glanville has produced a clever character study of a domineering man, absolutely without scruples as regards the making of a fortune, but really interested, though he hardly knows why he should be, in helping some of his less prosperous countrymen to find healthy conditions of living at home or in Canada. The small investor is fair game, but the man with no money to invest arouses the financier's sympathy. In fact there is good substance in the book, though the treatment is indifferent.

"Dorset Dear: Idylls of Country Life." By M. E. Francis (Mrs. Francis Blundell). London: Longmans. 1905. 6s.

There is nothing new to be said about a budget of seventeen Dorset stories by Mrs. Blundell. She knows the people, writes pleasantly, and generally passes by the sterner aspects of life. The contents of the present volume are collected from several periodicals, and there is, perhaps, some monotony in them. But the author never lets facility degenerate into carelessness, and her characters, if often they play conventional parts, have individual life. How any one person can write (as she has elsewhere written) with so much understanding of people so diverse as the peasants of Lancashire, Ireland, and Dorset, is astonishing, but in "Dorset Dear" Mrs. Blundell is constant to the southern county. It is a book into which one may dip with pleasure, but the stories are for the most part so slight that it is unwise to handle the whole string of beads at once.

#### NEW BOOKS AND REPRINTS.

"Ireland: Painted by Francis S. Walker, R.H.A. Described by Frank Mathew." London: Black. 1905. 20s. net.

It happened that this volume reached us when we were turning the leaves of "Ireland Illustrated", a volume produced in 1840 "at an auspicious moment, when a growing curiosity as to Ireland's pictorial charms, an accurate knowledge as to her capabilities of rapid and solid amelioration, begin to excite the most lively interest". During the interval of sixty-five years other matters connected with Ireland have excited a more lively interest, and Mr. Mathew has not much to say about the rapid and solid improvement of the country. At any rate, the standard of writing has risen: we no longer talk about an "insular position which confers the reciprocal advantages of external commerce". The illustrator of to-day, again, does not waste his time over ugly monuments and municipal buildings: Mr. Walker has rambled in Donegal, Achill, Kerry, Wicklow, and, so far as the distorting medium of colour-printing allows us to judge, has a pretty talent for sketching. In this book the effects of sunshine become intolerably garish, but some of the quieter scenes give a true impression. Still we are not sure that the engravings of our obsolete book are not in some ways preferable. For instance, one could be sure that the castles and country houses were really to be found, whereas one or

two of Mr. Walker's figure-studies—notably "The Piper's Visit"—suggest rather what the stranger expects than what he will find in Ireland. Mr. Mathew, on the other hand, pays no deference to the beliefs of the ill-informed: his pleasant if desultory pages unfold an individual point of view, and he combines a lively sense of the charm of Ireland with a refreshing common sense, none the less sound for its trick of paradox. His geography is careless—for instance Clare is not a Connaught county, and Glengarriff and Gougane Barra are not in Kerry. He is not always accurate: Valentia Island does not, we believe, take its name from the Spanish, nor is the framework of coracles (which no waterman could possibly class as "punts") normally composed of wicker. But he knows his history, and he makes it interesting to others.

"Handbook of Homeric Study." By Henry Browne. London: Longmans. 1905. 6s. net.

The Professor of Greek at University College, Dublin, has in this valuable and interesting book treated with conspicuous judgment and moderation the complex topic of the Homeric literature. All for whom the Iliad and the Odyssey possess attraction, who have some kind of familiarity with the text, and to whom the fascinating problem of Homeric authorship appeals, will find Professor Browne's work an invaluable guide through difficult and devious ways. We have not here a particular theory as to the date and authorship of the Poems and other Homeric questions, but a lucid treatment of the important results of the controversy since it started with Wolfe's Prolegomena. Professor Browne reaches a very eclectic position from his examination which does not admit of being stated in short dogmatic form, but it may be looked on as embodying what most scholars would regard as the fair outcome of the dispute. The specific question of authorship is of course only an infinitesimal part of the world of attractive subjects which constitute Homeric study. And of them all Professor Browne writes admirably and furnishes an introduction to them which could not be bettered for the purposes of the cultured reader who is something less than a technical scholar. Especially interesting is the chapter on Who were the Homeric People? in which the history of the modern development of archaeological scholarship is traced from the earlier excavations of Schliemann at Hissarlik and those at Tiryns and Mycenae, down to the more recent discoveries in Cyprus, Crete, and Melos. The "new" scholarship is largely due to the triumph of the spade, and those who are not familiar with the extraordinary light it throws on the ancient world and the antiquity of civilisation cannot do better than apply themselves to Professor Browne's very competent guidance.

"King Leopold II.: his Rule in Belgium and the Congo." By J. de Courcy MacDonnell. London: Cassell. 1905. 21s. net.

Mr. MacDonnell's account of the reign of King Leopold is obviously intended as an answer to the agitators who have sought to brand the doings of the Belgians in the Congo Free State with infamy. It contains a great deal of interesting matter which it would have been hardly possible for any writer to get together without assistance from official sources. No one who studies either the views or the acts of the King will for a moment believe that he could be a party to the horrors which are said to have taken place on the Congo. How much truth there is in the stories it is hopeless to attempt to determine. Under Leopold II. Belgium has certainly made great progress, and Mr. MacDonnell is not sparing in his eulogy of either the Belgians or their King. The weakness of the book is its redundancy and its tendency to exalt into great virtues the King's most commonplace actions. Its attenuated special pleading minimises but does not destroy whatever usefulness as a record it may possess.

"Korea and her Neighbours." By Mrs. Bishop. London: Murray. 1905. 5s. net.

Mrs. Bishop's narrative of her travels in Korea before and after the war between Japan and China is only less opportune to-day than it was in 1897. When she first visited Korea in 1894 she came away with the impression that it was the most uninteresting country she had ever seen, but since that time the condition of things has been revolutionised. Events, wrote Mrs. Bishop in 1897, have shown the better possibilities awaiting the nation. Before Korea became the bone of contention between Japan and Russia, British commercial interests were considerable, and in a preface Sir W. C. Hillier points out how much British manufacturers were indebted to the missionaries. Mrs. Bishop warned her readers in 1897 that it would be a mistake to imagine because Russia was in the ascendant that Japan had abandoned her claims. Down to that date her book is a valuable account of Korean life and government.

"The Fight for Canada." By William Wood. London: Constable. 1905. 21s. net.

That interest in the story of the fight for North America, which Mr. Bradley and others have told so well, does not diminish is proved by the early appearance of a second edition

of Major William Wood's able account of "the great Imperial war". The new issue is called "The Definitive Edition", but the only revision of importance which has been made is, the writer says, an attempt to improve the work as literature.

Great American Explorers: "Hernando de Soto, 1539-1542." 2 vols., 7s. 6d. "Lewis and Clark, 1804-6." 3 vols., 10s. 6d. London: Nutt. 1905.

In these volumes are contained the original records of two remarkable expeditions separated in point of time by more than two and a half centuries, but curiously enough covering contiguous ground. The romantic expeditions of De Soto and Coronado carried those adventurous Spaniards from what is now Georgia nearly to the Gulf of California, resulting in the discovery of the Mississippi River; Lewis and Clark, in their exploration of the Louisiana Purchase, set out under very different conditions, but their enterprise was hardly less noteworthy. The books give the reader a vivid idea of the Indians and their country, as they were before the European had

(Continued on page 816.)

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"Coryat's Crudities." By Thomas Coryat. 2 vols. Glasgow: MacLehose. 1905. 25s. net.

We rather sympathise with the publishers who declined to bring out "Coryat's Crudities" when the MS., early in the seventeenth century, was sent the round. It was not until Coryat had induced a number of leading men of the day to contribute panegyric verses on his MS. that he could find a publisher. These verses occupy a hundred pages of the book. Walton's "Angler" would not be hurt by the omission of such tiresome preliminary: panegyric is rarely endurable: but those who go through these hundred pages of the "Crudities" do penance indeed. The travels themselves and accounts of cities in Italy, France and Germany have no doubt some value. They are at least curious. But on the whole the first literary "taster" of the MS. was, we think, justified in rejecting Coryat.

"The Battle of Trafalgar." By Robert Southey. Introductory Note by A. C. Curtis. London: The Astolat Press. 1905. 1s. 6d.

For notably undistinguished prose commend us to Southey's account of Trafalgar. What sawdust after Froude's brilliant pictures of the sea fights and adventures of Drake and Hawkins! But there are several naval historians of to-day, greatly inferior to Froude, who can write livelier prose than Southey's, to say nothing of descriptive reporters on the press. It does not contain a single moving or powerful passage. Southey, like his successors, represents Nelson as saying "England expects every man to do his duty"! The actual words however appear to have been "Nelson expects every man to do his duty". The book is beautifully printed and produced with the usual good taste of the Astolat Press.

Mr. H. L. Brækstad gives a capital account of the dispute between Sweden and Norway, over the claim of the latter to have its own Consuls, in "The Constitutional Kingdom of Norway: an Historical and Political Survey" (Nutt). Besides these historical notes and a translation of the Constitution he gives the terms of the 1815 Act of Union by which Sweden and Norway were joined under King Bernadotte. The first condition makes the independence of Norway absolutely clear: "The kingdom of Norway shall be a free, independent, indivisible, and inalienable kingdom united with Sweden under one King. Its Form of Government shall be a limited and hereditary monarchy." Mr. Brækstad's notes are perhaps a little coloured by his strong feeling for Norway, but they are not unfair.

#### ART REVIEWS.

A most interesting discussion, provoked by M. Salomon Reinach's article in the March number of the "Gazette des Beaux Arts", has been going on in the supplement to that review, the "Chronique des Arts". The subject is a bronze statuette, said to have been found at Bavai, which came into the possession of the late M. Corroyer, and was shown at a meeting of the Société des Antiquaires in 1893. It evidently grouped with certain statues of wounded Amazons which belong to a famous competition among Greek sculptors; but the question arose whether it was an ancient reduction of a work contemporary with these, or a forgery based upon them. There was considerable doubt among the experts, and M. Babelon, of the Bibliothèque Nationale, expressed a strong view against its authenticity. It remained in M. Corroyer's possession till his death, and was seen by few people till the other day, when Madame Corroyer, following her husband's instructions, offered it as a gift to a national collection. Herr Furtwängler, as well as several French authorities, pronounced in its favour, but as there was not complete agreement among the learned, it was accepted, not for the Louvre, but for the Museum of St. Germain. There M. Reinach has carefully studied it, and now declares his belief that it is an ancient version of the "Blessé Défaillant", the wounded warrior of Cresilas, described by Pliny. This explains its resemblance to the Amazons, for Cresilas, a contemporary of Pheidias, was one of the sculptors who engaged in the competition. The statuette agrees in style with the known work of Cresilas and exactly fits the description of Pliny, if we suppose a lance to take the place of the standard for carrying a fight which at some unknown, but probably remote, time has taken its place. M. Babelon, perhaps excessively on the alert since the tiffin episode, still maintains his opposition and gives his reasons in the "Chronique" for 13 May. He is driven to suppose that the statuette is a forgery of the time of Canova or David, a quite impossible supposition if we bear in mind the state of knowledge of antiquity at that date and the models that were followed. Nor are M. Babelon's other arguments more convincing. So far as we can judge from photographs, M. Reinach

has made a most interesting and important discovery. We refer our readers for his supplementary argument to the "Chronique" for 20 May.

The May and June numbers of the "Gazette" and of the "Revue de l'Art Ancien et Moderne" contain the usual articles on the Salons, and also articles on the Whistler exhibition in Paris. M. Léonce Bénédite's articles on the latter subject in the "Gazette" are particularly interesting, being founded on letters from Whistler to his most intimate friend of early days, Fantin-Latour. In these letters we have nothing of the tiresome pose of infallible mastery, but a frank account from one painter to another of difficulties and achievements, and a warmth of comradeship and admiration for the work of others. In the May number of the "Gazette" we may notice an interesting article on French ivories in the Vatican Museum by Attilio Rossi, and in the "Revue" the conclusion of the account of Claus Sluter's "Puits des Prophètes" with the splendid head of Christ among the illustrations. Another article gives an account of recent acquisitions of the Dutch School at the Louvre, including an "Old Man Reading" by Rembrandt, of the "Philosopher" type. "Les Arts" for May has illustrated articles on Guillaume the sculptor and Menzel. "Art et Décoration" illustrates the "Adam and Eve" of Bartholomé and some other recent work of the same sculptor, with a note by M. Paul Vitry.

The "Burlington Magazine" (June) begins with an editorial on the "Extinction of the Middle-class Collector", in which the inflation of picture-buying in the 'seventies by the "nouveaux riches" is described, the effects of their taste on academical production, and the slump from which the painters and dealers who stimulated and satisfied their demand are now suffering. Inadvertently the "Burlington" touches on the question of Academy reform and supports the scheme put forward in these pages and in the "National Review" for an arrangement by which different groups of artists would organise their exhibitions side by side under the Academy's roof. Constantin Meunier is the subject of two articles. Mr. Ricketts claims too much for him in ranking him with Rodin and Puvis de Chavannes. He appears to us a subordinate artist of some talent working on the donnée of "L'Homme à la Houe" with a modelling based on Rodin's. When he ventured out a little on his own account, as in the figure of a fisherman, it could be seen how dependent he was. Mr. Herbert Horne continues his learned account of Andrea dal Castagno.

For this Week's Books see page 818.

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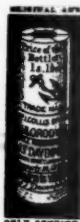
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The ninth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Pearks, Limited, was held on Tuesday, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C., under the presidency of Mr. John Cansfield (the Chairman of the Company).

The Secretary (Mr. John Dumphreys) having read the usual notice,

The Chairman said: "It gives your directors much pleasure to meet you with such a record of their stewardship as that which you now have before you, which shows continued progress of your Company. As we all know, competition gets keener every day—not only amongst those already in the trade, who vie with each other in their endeavours to captivate a public, who are quick to single out where they can get the best value, but also there is competition from the 'new Richmonds' who enter the field; for I find, in going through the reports since last year, that at 91 of our branches we have no less than 113 new competitors. Of course, good healthy competition is good for us, and I am pleased to say that with it all the volume of trade done during the past year exceeds all previous records very considerably, which, I think, shows that the public appreciate our goods, and the longer they know us the better they like us. Last year I made reference to our sales in tea, and you will be interested to know that my anticipations have been more than realised, and I have no doubt that we shall, with the benefit of the tower duty which soon comes into operation, be able to make further progress in that department. We have also during the year been able to devote some attention to the question of supplying public institutions and hotels, who are large buyers of the goods we sell, and I am pleased to say we number among our patrons some of the largest institutions in the country. I find that, once we get a trial order for our goods, repeat orders for larger quantities follow. While this increased trade has been experienced in what I may call the home business, I am pleased to be able to report a correspondingly large increase in other businesses in which we are interested. They have almost doubled their turnover, and at a satisfactory profit. This expansion of the business has placed us in a position of large buyers, and enables us to take advantage of large purchases at such prices as we could not otherwise have done. At the same time our experience enables us to work on more economical lines."

Turning to the balance-sheet, the Chairman said: "Now with respect to profit. After meeting all charges, there is left £29,033, which is the largest amount ever made by the Company, and we propose paying a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 5 per cent. for the year, against 2½ per cent. last year: to carry £6,468 to the different reserve funds, against £630 last year, and to carry forward £9,521, against £6,874 last year. These figures, I think, speak for themselves. If it is my privilege to meet you again next year, I have no doubt in my own mind, from my knowledge of the business, that the figures I shall place before you will be an improvement even on the present ones. I now beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts, and that a final dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum be paid on July 1 on the ordinary shares."

Mr. F. Jones seconded the motion, which, after discussion, was carried unanimously.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman, directors, and staff terminated the proceedings.



The List will be closed on or before the 19th day of June, 1905.

# THE CATARACT COPPER MINING CO.

(OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, MONTANA, U.S.A.)

*Incorporated under the Laws of South Dakota, U.S.A.*

Authorised Share Capital - - \$2,500,000,

DIVIDED INTO 500,000 SHARES OF \$5 EACH.

385,000 Shares have been Issued and are Fully-paid and Non-assessable and held in America.

**Messrs. GUBBINS & COMPANY, having purchased the same**

**OFFER FOR SALE THE**

**Balance of 115,000 Shares at £1 per Share,**

Payable as to 10s. per Share on Application and the balance on the 6th July, 1905.

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.

CARL G. WEIDINGER (President), Messrs. Paul Weidinger &amp; Son, 56 Pine Street, New York City, U.S.A.

SAMUEL B. VROOMAN (First Vice-President), Director of Tenth National Bank, Philadelphia, Penn., U.S.A.

MARCUS L. HEWETT (Second Vice-President and General Manager), Mining Engineer and Banker, Basin, Montana, U.S.A.

OTIS K. NEWELL (Secretary), Banker, 308 Bourse, Philadelphia, Penn., U.S.A.

J. L. KETTERLINUS (Treasurer), President Ketterlinus Litho. Manufacturing Company, 4th and Arch Streets, Philadelphia, U.S.A.

OFFICES—308 BOURSE, PHILADELPHIA, PENN., U.S.A.

FISCAL AGENTS IN LONDON—MESSRS. GUBBINS &amp; CO., 65 London Wall, E.C.

SOLICITORS TO " " MESSRS. BIRCHAM &amp; CO., 50 Old Broad Street, E.C.

BROKERS TO " " MESSRS. COHEN, LAMING &amp; CO., 15 Angel Court, E.C.

BANKERS TO " " MESSRS. GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE &amp; CO., 67 Lombard Street, E.C.

THE CATARACT COPPER MINING COMPANY was organised in 1901, under the laws of the State of South Dakota, U.S.A.

Hon. MARCUS L. HEWETT, the second Vice-President and General Manager of the Company, has written the following letter respecting the properties of the Company, their development and prospects:—

"To MESSRS. GUBBINS &amp; COMPANY, 65 London Wall, E.C.

30th May, 1905.

"DEAR SIRS,—The Cataract Copper Mining Company owns 21 quartz claims of 20 acres each, in all, say, 420 acres; 300 acres of placer-ground, 3 valuable water rights, a well-planned and fully-equipped Smelter capable of treating 200 tons of ore per day, and a Concentrating Mill with a capacity of 150 tons per day, and has, in addition, options extending over considerable periods on 8 quartz claims, which, it is expected, will prove very valuable.

"The claims are located in the Cataract district in Jefferson County, Montana, within 18 miles of the City of Butte, and in the centre of the great mineral district of the State of Montana.

"The ore is of the same general character and in the same formation as is found in the copper mines situated in Butte, viz., the Anaconda, the Butte and Boston, the Boston and Montana (all of which are controlled by the Amalgamated Copper Company), also the great mines owned by Senator W. A. Clark and F. Augustus Heinze.

"Statistics show that over one-fourth of the world's total output of copper is produced within a few miles of the claims owned by this Company, and the following particulars of some of the Companies operating in the district should be of interest:—

"The Anaconda Copper Mining Company, which is the largest copper producer in the world, employs, under normal circumstances, about 5,000 men, and has paid since 1866 over 21 dols. in Dividends on its Shares, which are of 25 dols. each.

"The Boston and Montana Copper and Silver Mining Company has paid over 28,000,000 dols. in Dividends since its incorporation. The shares of the Company are of 25 dols. each, and a few years ago were selling at about 15 dols. per Share, but since then have sold as high as 580 dols. per Share.

"The Parrot Silver and Copper Company is one of the small companies in the district, and on its 10 dol. Shares, paid Dividends of 6 dols. per Share in 1900 and 4.50 dols. in 1901. The Company is practically owned by the Amalgamated Copper Company, and its production in 1903 was about 14,000,000 lbs. of copper.

"The accompanying plan shows a longitudinal section of some of the claims owned by the Cataract Copper Mining Company on the main lead or vein, and a great amount of development work has been accomplished by means of tunnels, shafts, cross-cuts, &c. The vein outcrops on the Company's property for a distance of over three miles, and the principal development work has been done on the Blue Goose, Bullion, Moccasin and Crystal Claims. Owing to the conformation of the ground, mining can be carried on by means of tunnels, and by this method great depth can be attained without heavy expenses for pumping and hoisting.

"Development work has been conducted by means of four tunnels which have been driven on the vein.

"No. 1 TUNNEL, on the Bullion Claim near the summit of the mountain, is in 235 ft., and sundry cross-cuts have been driven showing a continuous ore body with a width of from 4 to 8 ft. Shipments made from this ore body show very rich values in copper, gold and silver, running as high as 16.80 dols. per ton in gold and 37 ozs. in silver.

"No. 2 TUNNEL, 200 ft. vertically below the No. 1, is in on the vein a distance of 1,300 ft., and has fully developed the ore body found in the No. 1 Tunnel, and cross-cuts at this depth show the ore bodies to be 10 to 14 ft. wide and carry a much higher percentage of copper, together with the gold and silver values. 900 ft. from the mouth of this tunnel an upraise has been driven to the surface a distance of 270 ft. all in ore.

"No. 3 TUNNEL, 200 ft. vertically below the No. 2, is in on the vein a distance of 5,000 ft., and has developed the same ore bodies found in Tunnels Nos. 1 and 2, but in this tunnel cross-cuts show a constantly increasing width of ore bodies as depth is attained. On this level the ore bodies vary from 10 to 30 ft. in width, with the same gold and silver values as above, and a slight increase in the percentage of copper. At 1,200 and 1,800 ft. from the mouth of this tunnel upraises have been driven to tunnel No. 2, which show the ore bodies to be continuous the entire distance.

"No. 4 TUNNEL, 680 ft. vertically below the No. 3, is in on the vein a distance of 400 ft., and shows the same ore as displayed in the tunnels higher up the mountain, and work is being vigorously pushed in this tunnel with the object of opening up the ore bodies, and creating a very large ore reserve.

"The outcrop of the same vein shows on the Crystal Claim, which is on the other side of the mountain from the Bullion Claim, and a tunnel has been driven in on the vein for 1,300 ft., with an upraise to the surface a distance of 200 ft. Smelter returns of the ore shipped from this tunnel show as high as 6.8 per cent. copper, 5.90 dols. in gold, and 26 ozs. silver per ton. Cross-cuts in this tunnel show the vein to be 60 ft. wide. The ores found in this vein are what is termed heavy sulphide ores, and well adapted for smelting.

"The ore blocked out and now in reserve in the three miles of underground development already accomplished should amount, on a very conservative estimate, to over 1,000,000 tons. Smelter returns of ore shipped from the Company's property, and from returns from the matte shipped from the Company's smelter, show that a saving of at least 7 dols. per ton net can be effected after allowing for all expenses of extraction and treatment.

"The water rights owned by the Company will, it is estimated, supply amply sufficient water to run reduction works of 1,000 tons daily capacity.

"The present issue will provide ample funds for the enlargement of the Company's works and the further development of the properties on a broad and comprehensive scale. It is proposed to double the capacity of the concentrator and smelter within the next twelve months, and this will enable the Company to treat in all 600 tons of ore per day.

"On the above estimate of 7 dols. per ton profit, this would mean a daily profit to the Company of 4,200 dols., or, allowing 300 working days in the year, an annual income (subject only to deduction for administration expenses) of 1,260,000 dols., or over 50 per cent. on the capital.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

"MARCUS L. HEWETT,

"Second Vice-President and General Manager of the Cataract Copper Mining Company."

Messrs. GUBBINS & CO. have been authorised by the Company to open a London Register for the 115,000 SHARES NOW OFFERED FOR SALE, and application will be made to the London Stock Exchange to appoint a Special Settlement in the Shares on the London Register. Certificates under the seal of the Company for these Shares will be issued to and held by two trustees to be appointed by the London shareholders. Messrs. Gubbins & Co. will, as the Fiscal Agents of the Company in London, issue London Register Certificates to purchasers, under which the holders will, after the expiration of two years from the 24th May, 1905, be entitled on demand to receive in due course American certificate or certificates, under the seal of the Company, for the Shares belonging to them, but upon such last-mentioned certificates being delivered the Shares comprised therein will cease to be entered on the London Register. The Company reserve the right from time to time, after the expiration of the period of two years above-mentioned, to increase the Shares on the London Register.

Application for shares must be made on the accompanying form, and sent, together with the remittance for the deposit payable thereon, on or before the 19th day of June, 1905, to the Bankers, Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., 67 Lombard Street, London, E.C.

Messrs. Gubbins & Co. reserve the right to accept or refuse any application in whole or in part.

In cases where the application is not accepted the deposit will be returned in full, and where the application is accepted for a less amount than that applied for, the excess paid by way of deposit will be applied towards the payment of the final instalment.

Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum will be chargeable upon the final instalment if in arrear.

After payment of the final instalment London Register Certificates for the Shares (fully paid) will, as soon as practicable, be delivered in exchange for Acceptance Letter and Bankers' Receipts.

On failure to pay the final instalment, the Vendors may, by notice in writing to the Purchaser at the address stated in his application form, cancel the sale, and thereupon the deposit shall be forfeited to the Vendors.

A brokerage of 6d. per share will be paid on sales made on applications bearing Broker's stamps.

A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation and the Bye-laws of the Company, the original of the above-mentioned letter, and a list of existing Stockholders (which embraces some of the most influential and successful business and banking men in America), together with the detailed Smelter Returns of Shipments made, can be seen at the offices of Messrs. Gubbins & Co., 65 London Wall, London, E.C., during usual business hours before the list is closed.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained at the offices of Messrs. Gubbins & Co., Messrs. Bircham & Co., or Messrs. Cohen, Laming & Co.

13th June, 1905.

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